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State hit with heavy snow, winds

More than a foot falls in some areas, bringing transportation to a halt

By Alex Putterman
Hartford Courant

A winter storm dumped more than a foot of snow on parts of Connecticut on Saturday, blanketing roads and halting transportation across much of the state. As of late Saturday afternoon, state police had received 731 calls for service Saturday and responded to 66 accidents, four of which involved serious injuries, Max Reiss, a spokesperson for Gov. Ned Lamont, said. Three vehicles had

been cited for violating the state's ban on tractor trailer trucks during the storm. Despite fear of mass power outages due to the storm, the state experienced no major issues in that area, with Eversource reporting only about 200 outages in total over the course of the day, Reiss said. The National Weather Service confirmed blizzard conditions in parts of Eastern Connecticut on Saturday morning, with strong wind gusts persisting into

the evening. Snow accumulated across the state, with Bridgeport reporting 14 inches as of mid-afternoon and areas of New London and Windham counties reporting as much as a foot and a half. A spokesperson for Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin said the city had recorded about 6 inches of snow as of mid-afternoon but had not experienced any major accidents or outages. Hartford announced Saturday its parking ban will end

Turn to Snow, Page 3



Sidewalks are cleared in Mansfield on Saturday morning as a winter storm swept through Connecticut. **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

“There’s this sense of impending doom here. There (Ukraine), there’s a feeling that this is being externally heated. It’s a fire created from the outside.”

— Elena Koulidobrova, associate professor of linguistics at Central Connecticut State University



Katja Kolcio, an associate professor at Wesleyan University, has been working closely with civic nongovernmental organizations in Ukraine since 2015. Since 2019, she has focused on the Donbas region. Kolcio works with a cross-section of the population, including humanitarians, war-relief workers, activists, soldiers, veterans and government officials. **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

Unease grows among Ukrainian-Americans

Those in Connecticut watch anxiously as tensions rise on border

By Don Stacom | Hartford Courant

As reports of a military buildup along Ukraine’s eastern border become increasingly foreboding, some Ukrainian-Americans in Connecticut say they are watching news of a potential Russian invasion with deep concern.

“I’m horrified by what [Russian President Vladimir] Putin is trying to do. I’m hoping sanctions work — from everything I’ve read Russia’s economy is kind of in shambles. Whether Putin is posturing, I don’t know,” said Maria Brandriff of Hamden, who was born to Ukrainian parents in a displaced persons camp in

Germany after World War II. The Ukrainian-American community in the state has not been holding public events so far. But U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, who two weeks ago was part of a Senate delegation that went to Ukraine to meet with President Volodymyr Zelenskyy,

said he hears regularly from Connecticut Ukrainian-Americans calling for stronger support for their ancestral homeland. “There is a sense of tension and anxiety in the Ukrainian community that is like the one here. I have been in very close contact with Ukrainian-Americans in Connecticut. They’re a powerful voice for freedom and independence for their family and friends in Ukraine,” Blumenthal said Friday. Some Ukrainian-American community and religious leaders in Connecticut declined to talk publicly Friday about the situation, but two university professors

Turn to Ukraine, Page 2

Hartford shelters feeling strained

Throughout region, cold temperatures put added stress on system

By Seamus McAvoy
Hartford Courant

Despite Connecticut boasting one of the country’s most robust systems to shelter people experiencing homelessness, winter weather and COVID-19 are combining to pose challenges to Hartford-area resources serving the city’s most vulnerable people. Though infection rates are declining statewide, outbreaks among staff and volunteers have forced shelters to make do with thin crews working extra shifts. Meanwhile, the capital city’s two warming centers — one for individuals at 110 Washington St. and one for families at 104 Vine St. — are at capacity as temperatures and snow fall, according to Salvation Army Maj. Migdalia Levenbein.

“This is a difficult time for people to be outside, and it’s incredibly dangerous right now, with the way the temperatures have been,” Lavenbein said. Connecticut is approaching the end of its latest severe cold weather protocol, a set of coordinated actions and requirements to help people access safe shelter. Gov. Ned Lamont activated the protocol on Jan. 14 in response to the long-term chill, and later extended it through Feb. 2. The protocol requires overnight warming centers — which are relatively rare in Connecticut — to stay open all day. Hartford’s centers, which opened in December and are operated by the Salvation Army, were available between 6 p.m. and 7 a.m. prior to Lamont’s order. The extreme cold poses a safety risk to anyone without a warm place to sleep, particularly for those who aren’t

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Local athletes head to Beijing

The 2022 Winter Olympics open Friday in Beijing, and a number of U.S. athletes with Connecticut ties will be competing, including luger Tucker West, of Ridgefield, and Kristen Santos, a speedskater from Fairfield. **SPORTS, PAGE 5**

Past clouds future high court fight

Partisanship has marked recent confirmations

By Carl Hulse
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — It was a testament to the breakdown of the Senate’s judicial confirmation machinery that the first question posed by many this past week regarding an upcoming Supreme Court vacancy was whether Democrats could install a new justice entirely on their own.

The answer is yes, if the party sticks together. And the prospect of President Joe Biden’s eventual nominee receiving only Democratic votes is hardly far-fetched, given the bitter history of recent confirmation fights for the high court. Justice Amy Coney Barrett, the last member of the court confirmed by the Senate, did not receive a single Democratic vote. But Republicans held a 53-47 advantage and could afford to lose a colleague or two in ramming through her nomination just

before the presidential election in 2020. With their bare-minimum 50-seat majority, Democrats will not have that luxury after Biden nominates the first Black woman for the court sometime in the next few weeks. Considering the toxic partisan atmosphere surrounding contemporary Supreme Court fights, it is conceivable she could make history not only because of her gender and race, but also as the first person elevated to the court by a tiebreaking vote of the vice president.

It would be a far cry from the simple voice-vote approval of many of her predecessors as recently as the 1960s. Or the 98-0 confirmation of Justice Antonin Scalia, a leading judicial conservative, in 1986. Or even the 87-9 vote in 1994 for Justice Stephen Breyer, a member of the court’s liberal wing, who announced Thursday that he would step down after nearly three decades. The decline in consensus Supreme Court confirmations

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Court

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has been precipitous, and the escalation of partisan warfare has been sharp. Deep bitterness lingers over the Democratic assault on Robert Bork in 1987; the routine deployment of filibusters against judicial nominees of both parties beginning during the administration of President George W. Bush; the Republican blockade of Judge Merrick Garland in 2016; the tumultuous confirmation of Justice Brett Kavanaugh in 2018; and the hardball Republican move to rush Barrett onto the court two years later. With the Supreme Court deciding so many of the most polarizing issues of the day — including abortion rights and affirmative action — neither side is willing to cede much ground, and both display their battle scars. “It is a sad commentary on the nomination process that it has so disintegrated over the years,” said Sen. Susan Collins of Maine, one of the handful of Repub-



Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer’s pending retirement will bring on a process to replace him. ERIN SCHAFF/THE NEW YORK TIMES

licans considered to be in play as potential backers of Biden’s pick. “If you look at the incredibly strong vote by which Stephen Breyer was confirmed, you just don’t see it nowadays.” Democrats would dearly like to avoid a skin-of-

the-teeth party-line vote for whomever Biden puts forward. One of the first calls made by Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., chair of the Judiciary Committee, was to Collins, promising her whatever material and assistance he could provide to help her

evaluate the forthcoming nominee. Democrats also hope the fact that Biden’s pick would replace a liberal justice and not tip the ideological balance of the firmly conservative court — and the fact that she will be an African

American woman — will deter Republicans from a scorched-earth campaign when their odds of winning are low. But although Republicans are promising an open-minded review of the nominee, hard feelings over the earlier confirmation clashes, most recently Kavanaugh’s fight against sexual assault allegations, are never far from the surface. “Whoever the president nominates will be treated fairly and with the dignity and respect someone of his or her caliber deserves, something not afforded to Justice Kavanaugh and other Republican nominees of the past,” Sen. John Cornyn of Texas, a senior Republican member of the Judiciary Committee, said in response to Breyer’s retirement. Besides Collins, another Republican who will be the focus of Democratic attention is Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, a frequent supporter of judicial nominees of Democratic presidents and the only Republican to oppose Kavanaugh.

Murkowski is running for reelection this year under a new ranked-choice voting system back home. Siding with Biden’s choice for the court could help her attract the Democratic and independent voters she could need to prevail under the new election rules in her state. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., a former chair of the Judiciary Committee, has also deferred to Democratic presidents in the past and voted for justices and lower-court judges they put forward. Even before the nominee is known, it is clear the outcome in the Senate is most likely to be highly partisan, with the candidate receiving a few Republican votes at best — and perhaps none at all. For a country torn apart by partisanship and a court struggling with its image and credibility, that is far from an ideal outcome. “I really think it would be harmful to the country to have a repeat of what we saw with the last two nominees being so narrowly confirmed,” Collins said.

Ukraine

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with connections to Ukraine said they are following developments regularly. “I spoke with several people in Ukraine today to check the pulse on this. My read is that folks are strained, but they are not entirely surprised, and they’re not particularly scared,” said Elena Koulidobrova, an associate professor in linguistics at Central Connecticut State University. Koulidobrova was born in Ukraine before it gained independence from the Soviet Union; her heritage is Russian, and she does not consider herself Ukrainian. But she said she would side with Ukraine in its conflict with Russia. “There’s this sense of

impending doom here” that her friends in Ukraine don’t share, she said. “There, there’s a feeling that this is being externally heated. It’s a fire created from the outside.” Koulidobrova said her friends in Ukraine are less alarmed now than immediately after the Russian annexation of Crimea in 2014. “There isn’t a sense that people are stockpiling now. But with that said, one couple disclosed to me that they’ve had space underneath their garage floor since 2014 — a cellar with sleeping bags and a stockpile,” she said. Katja Kolcio, an associate professor at Wesleyan University and director of the Allbritton Center, said her contacts in Ukraine fear a so-called hybrid war — involving cyber attacks

on the power grid and the internet along with military incursions. “That can really destabilize social systems. They feel that’s a danger as real as a military invasion,” said Kolcio, the principal American researcher with Vitality Project Donbas, a collaboration between Wesleyan and the NGO Development Foundation that seeks to offset the psychological effects of exhaustion, depression, and social isolation in communities in eastern Ukraine. “I was just on the phone this morning with a good number of people who were trying to figure out how to survive and live their lives with this impending invasion. They say, ‘We have to continue to live.’ The teachers there are teaching how to talk with children without panic.”

Archbishop Leonard P. Blair presided at a Holy Hour for Peace in Ukraine on Tuesday afternoon at the St. Mary Parish in New Haven, which was attended by Bishop Paul Chomnycky of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford. But last week, the websites and online bulletins for several Ukrainian churches in Connecticut made no reference to the situation. Pastors at New Britain and Stamford churches did not return calls, and a man identifying himself as the pastor at St. Mary in Colchester declined to comment. Richard Wanik, president of the Ukrainian Home in Hartford, said he wasn’t comfortable speaking of a political issue. Blumenthal, however, said the Ukrainian-Americans he knows are strong

defenders of Ukraine. Blumenthal and Sen. Chris Murphy were part of a bipartisan group of senators that traveled to Ukraine to demonstrate solidarity. They have been pressing President Joe Biden’s administration to speed the sale of more lethal weapons to Ukraine, including Stinger and Javelin missiles. “Those are the kinds of weapons the Ukrainians need to defend themselves. Ukraine has been fighting a long eight-year struggle against Russian military action,” he said. “I’ve come back from Ukraine with stronger and deeper support than ever for Ukrainians and their homeland — people who feel threatened so deeply and dangerously. I strongly believe we should have sanctions right now — export controls, end Putin’s

supply of semiconductors, disconnect his financial system from the world framework.” Brandriff, who still has relatives living in Ukraine, said she’s trying to stay optimistic that sanctions would succeed. She said she’s concerned that some Ukrainian-Americans aren’t more troubled by developments. “Some Ukrainians have swallowed the right-wing rhetoric. It just amazes me,” she said. “My parents escaped Ukraine during World War II because my father was an outspoken patriot — he had been imprisoned more than once, both under Poles and Russians. I grew up with this horror of communism. When I see an authoritarian like Putin just decide to grab what he wants to grab, it’s unconscionable.”

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LOTTERY
Saturday, Jan. 29

PLAY3 DAY	PLAY4 DAY
1 6 2 WB: 7	0 7 2 7 WB: 1

The late numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/lottery.

FRIDAY'S LATE NUMBERS

PLAY3 NIGHT	PLAY4 NIGHT
7 5 8 WB: 5	7 4 1 6 WB: 2

CASH 5
2 4 13 26 31

LUCKY FOR LIFE
11 21 27 32 48 LB: 7

LOTTO
4 9 25 27 28 43
Zero first-prize ticket(s) sold.

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3 16 25 44 55 MB: 13 MP: 3
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FROM PAGE ONE

Trucker convoy protests Canada COVID-19 rules

Associated Press

OTTAWA, Ontario — Thousands of protesters gathered in Canada's capital on Saturday to protest vaccine mandates, masks and lockdowns.

The sounds of honking horns echoed around Ottawa's downtown core. A convoy of trucks and cars parked around Parliament Hill with some parking on the grounds of the National War Memorial before police asked them to move.

"Parking on this sacred ground that includes the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was a sign of complete disrespect," Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson tweeted.

Some compared COVID-19 restrictions to fascism and made use of Nazi symbols on upside down Canadian flags. One truck carried a Confederate flag while many carried expletive-laden signs targeting Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

The statue of the late

Terry Fox, a national hero who lost a leg to bone cancer as a youngster, then set off in 1980 on a fundraising trek across Canada, was draped with a upside down Canadian flag with a sign that said "mandate freedom."

David Santos said he came from Montreal because he believes the vaccine mandates are not health-related but what he calls a "control thing" by governments.

The convoy of truckers and others prompted police to prepare for the possibility of violence and warn residents to avoid downtown. A top Parliament security official advised lawmakers to lock their doors amid reports their private homes may be targeted.

Trudeau has said Canadians are not represented by this "very troubling, small but very vocal minority of Canadians who are lashing out at science, at government, at society, at mandates and public health advice."

The prime minister's itinerary for the day usually says he is in Ottawa if he's at home, but on Saturday it said "National Capital Region" amid a report he's been moved to an undisclosed location.

Some are, in part, protesting a new rule that took effect Jan. 15 requiring truckers entering Canada be fully immunized against the coronavirus. The United States has imposed the same requirement on truckers entering that country.

The Canadian Trucking Alliance said a great number of the protesters have no connection to the trucking industry, adding they have a separate agenda to push. The alliance said in a statement that the industry must adapt and comply with this mandate, noting the vast majority of drivers have done so.

The organizers of the protest have called for the forceful elimination of all COVID-19 restrictions



Supporters arrive Saturday at Parliament Hill for the Freedom Truck Convoy to protest against COVID-19 vaccine mandates and restrictions in Ottawa, Canada. **LARS HAGBERG/GETTY-AFP**

and vaccine mandates and others called for the removal of Trudeau.

Some opposition Conservative lawmakers served coffee to the protesters and the party leader met with some truckers. The protest has also attracted support from Donald Trump Jr. and some Fox News personalities.

"Today the threat against democracy isn't only happening in America," former U.S. Ambassador to Canada Bruce Heyman tweeted.

The Parliamentary Protective Service expects as many as 10,000 protesters as part of a weekend-long rally.

"I'm locked into my own country right now," said Tom

Pappin, an unvaccinated man who came from just outside Ottawa. "I can't go on a holiday. I can't go to a restaurant, I can't go bowling. I can't go to a movie. You know, these are things that it's just gotten out of control."

The New York Times contributed.

Shelters

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actively seeking shelter or other resources.

There could be myriad reasons for their hesitancy, said Marilyn Rossetti, a Hartford city council member and chief executive of Open Hearth, a men's shelter and resource center. Past trauma may make it difficult to deal with the large crowds and cramped conditions characteristic of some shelter settings, for example.

"So then all of a sudden, when it's really cold, they have nowhere to go," Rossetti said.

How many people are experiencing homelessness?

Experts say it's difficult to track exactly how many people are experiencing homelessness, or who have tenuous access to shelter.

Some may be living outdoors during the warmer seasons. Others may lack stable shelter, but are temporarily borrowing a bed or couch from a friend or family member.

There were 2,594 people experiencing homelessness in Connecticut during the 2021 point-in-time count, essentially a hand count to measure how many people are living outdoors or in shelters during a single night in January. The 2022 count took place Jan. 25, and results are currently being compiled.

At least 454 individuals were in need of housing in Greater Hartford last week, according to data from the Coordinated Access Network (CAN). Four names were added from the previous seven days.

It's a slight decrease from December, when at least 478 were in need. Eighty percent of those individuals were experiencing homeless-



Hoping to be warmed by sunlight shining through wind-chilled single-digit temperatures, a 35-year-old homeless woman rests under a blanket in downtown Hartford on Jan. 11. The woman said she has been homeless since losing her apartment three months ago. The cold has added stress to homeless shelters already strained by COVID-19. "Sometimes," she said, "it's better off on the streets." **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

ness for the first time, and became homeless within the last 12 months.

"Well over 30 to 40%" of the people experiencing homelessness in Hartford are from places other than the city originally, Rossetti noted.

"People come here, because if you're in a Wethersfield, a Windsor, a Bloomfield, this is where the social services are."

How does Connecticut's homelessness response system work?

During the severe cold weather protocol, the state's response system kicks into higher gear: Anyone who needs a bed, gets one. "Our

system is designed to help everyone who calls" said Evonne Klein, chief executive of the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness and former state housing commissioner.

Under the Coordinated Access Network, anyone in need of shelter can dial 2-1-1. A 2-1-1 worker assesses the individual's situation, and first tries to seek alternatives to entry into the shelter system. The individual may first be connected with a shelter diversion worker, according to Sarah Pavone, director of strategy for Journey Home, the backbone agency for the Greater Hartford CAN.

If emergency housing

is necessary, staff in the CAN network work to find available beds within the shelter system. "The most important part of the CAN network, and why it's been so successful, is how integrated all of our partners are," Pavone said.

Emergency shelters are usually preferred over warming centers, and those beds fill up first. Rossetti said Open Hearth is "always" at capacity — and COVID-19 safety measures have reduced shelter capacity to 100 beds from 125.

Jane Banks, executive director of Hartford's South Park Inn, said the shelter just found permanent housing for a handful of people,

but usually runs near its 53-bed limit.

Short on shelter beds, and on funds

When Hartford's warming centers fill up, the state's severe cold weather protocol requires hotel beds to be available for overflow emergency housing.

Shelter workers said they didn't know exactly how many people were in overflow housing, but said the number of people experiencing homelessness far exceeds the number of spaces shelters can provide.

"We don't have enough resources right now," Klein said. The "ultimate solution," she said, is the expan-

sion of affordable housing.

"Clearly, what we know in the state of Connecticut is that ending homelessness is not insurmountable," Klein said. "With the appropriate amount of resources, we can end homelessness, as we have with ending veteran homelessness."

Kate Shafer, development director of Hands on Hartford said the local service organization recently formed a "homeless outreach team" to connect people in need with shelter or resources.

The team goes out into the area on evenings and weekends, Shafer said, and looks for people who appear to be living outdoors during times of severe cold.

"That's especially challenging, to see folks who are living outdoors when it gets really, really cold," Shafer said. "It's rough. It's rough out there."

Shafer said the outreach team was created thanks to, and is sustained by, funding from the CARES Act. Prior to the influx of federal dollars, Hands on Hartford relied on a shaky stream of private donations to support its meal program and other services. "It's very tenuous, and it was always underfunded," Shafer said.

The CARES Act dollars are set to expire in September.

The \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan includes \$5 billion for emergency housing vouchers, and another \$5 billion for affordable housing. Shafer hopes money can be made available to continue supporting outreach, too.

"This is front line work that really needs to be funded, so we are really hoping that's what happens," she said.

Seamus McAvoy may be reached at smcavoy@courant.com.

Snow

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Sunday morning, when the storm is expected to have passed.

In Manchester, Town Manager Steve Stephanou said the town had seen 9-12 inches but that the snow has been relatively light, making for easier plowing. West Hartford Town Manager Matt Hart said things had been relatively quiet Saturday, with no major accidents or outages.

East Hartford Mayor Mike Walsh also said the town had seen no major issues.

As of late afternoon Saturday, much of Connecticut appeared to have experienced the worst of the storm.

Gary Lessor, chief meteorologist at Western Connecticut State University's weather center, said Sunday is expected to be a "beautiful day," with highs in the mid-20s but "plenty of sunshine." Temperatures are expected to rise further in the coming days, he said, reaching the 40s on Wednesday.

As the storm acceler-

ated Saturday, transportation across the state largely came to a pause. All flights in and out of Bradley Airport were canceled, and almost all commuter rail service and bus service was paused.

Additionally, numerous Connecticut towns, including most in the Hartford area, imposed parking bans in an attempt to keep roads clear for plows.

Early Saturday, Lamont implemented a ban on tractor trailer trucks on state highways. The ban was lifted at 11:59 p.m. Saturday.

Commuter rail and bus service is expected to resume Sunday, Mark Rolfe, Connecticut's deputy transportation commissioner, said.

Saturday's snowstorm was expected to bring blizzard conditions and 1-2 feet of snow on parts of Connecticut, with a particularly severe impact in the eastern part of the state.

Meteorologists on Saturday predicted the storm could be Connecticut's biggest since 2017.

Alex Putterman can be reached at aputterman@courant.com.



A crew clears a stairwell and crosswalk of snow Saturday in Mansfield as a powerful nor'easter swept up the East Coast, threatening to bury parts of 10 states under deep snow accompanied by coastal flooding and high winds. Parts of Connecticut were hit with more than a foot of snow. **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

Russia backs off Irish war games

Naval exercises to move from Ireland economic zone

By Jim Heintz
Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russia says it will relocate naval exercises off the coast of Ireland after Dublin raised concerns about them amid a tense dispute with the West over expansion of the NATO alliance and fears that Russia is preparing to invade Ukraine.

The Feb. 3-8 exercises were to be held 150 miles off southwestern Ireland — in international waters but within Ireland’s exclusive economic zone.

Irish Foreign Minister Simon Coveney this week objected to the war games, saying “This isn’t a time to increase military activity and tension in the context of what’s happening with and in Ukraine. The fact that they are choosing to do it on the western borders, if you like, of the EU, off the Irish coast, is something that in our view is simply not welcome.”

Russia’s embassy in Ireland on Saturday posted a letter on Facebook from Ambassador Yuriy Filatov saying the exercises would be relocated outside of the Irish economic zone “with the aim not to hinder fishing activities.”

The decision was a rare concession amid the escalating tensions surrounding Russia’s massing of an estimated 100,000 troops near the border with Ukraine and its demands that NATO promise never to allow Ukraine to join the alliance, stop the deployment of NATO weapons near Russian borders and roll



Ukraine’s Territorial Defense Forces, volunteer units of the Armed Forces, train Saturday near Kyiv, Ukraine. EFREM LUKATSKY/AP

back its forces from Eastern Europe.

The U.S. and NATO formally rejected those demands last week, although Washington outlined areas where discussions are possible, offering some hope that there could be a way to avoid war.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has made no public remarks about the Western response. Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said it leaves little chance for reaching agreement, though he also says Russia does not want war.

U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said Friday

that Putin could use any portion of his force to seize Ukrainian cities and “significant territories” or to carry out “coercive acts or provocative political acts” like the recognition of breakaway territories inside Ukraine.

Two territories in eastern Ukraine have been under the control of Russia-backed rebels since 2014.

A Russian lawmaker is encouraging residents of those areas of Ukraine to join the Russian army, a sign that Moscow is continuing to try to integrate those territories as much as possible.

Viktor Vodolatsky said

Saturday that residents of the regions controlled since 2014 by Russia-backed rebels fear assaults by Ukrainian forces and that those who hold Russian passports would be welcomed in the military.

“If Russian citizens residing in the (territories) want to join the Russian Armed Forces, the Rostov regional military commissariat will register and draft them,” Vodolatsky, deputy chairman of parliament committee on relations with neighbors, told the state news agency Tass.

Russia has granted passports to more than 500,000

people in the territories. Vodolatsky said the recruits would serve in Russia — but that leaves open the option that they could join any future invasion force.

A senior official in President Joe Biden’s administration said the U.S. welcomed Lavrov’s comments that Russia does not want war, “but this needs to be backed up with action. We need to see Russia pulling some of the troops that they have deployed away from the Ukrainian border and taking other de-escalatory steps.”

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not autho-

rized to talk publicly.

Lavrov has said the U.S. suggested the two sides could talk about limits on the deployment of intermediate-range missiles, restrictions on military drills and rules to prevent accidents between warships and aircraft.

He said the Russians proposed discussing those issues several years ago, but Washington and its allies never took them up on it until now.

He also said those issues are secondary to Russia’s main concerns about NATO.

He said international agreements say the security of one nation must not come at the expense of others, and said he would send letters to Western counterparts asking them to explain their failure to respect that pledge.

Washington has warned Moscow of devastating sanctions if it invades Ukraine, including penalties targeting top Russian officials and key economic sectors.

Lavrov said Moscow had warned Washington that sanctions would amount to a complete severing of ties.

NATO, meanwhile, said it was bolstering its deterrence in the Baltic Sea region.

Russia has launched military drills involving motorized infantry and artillery units in southwestern Russia, warplanes in Kaliningrad on the Baltic Sea, and dozens of warships in the Black Sea and the Arctic.

Russian troops are also in Belarus for joint drills, raising Western fears that Moscow could stage an attack on Ukraine from the north from Belarus. The Ukrainian capital is less than 50 miles from the border with Belarus.

Storm lashes East Coast with high winds, snow

Nor’easter expected to move into Canada by Sunday morning

By Mark Pratt and Mike Catalini
Associated Press

BOSTON — A storm with wind gusts near hurricane force lashed the Northeast on Saturday, dropping heavy snow, causing coastal flooding and threatening widespread power outages while forecasters warned conditions would worsen and then be followed by bitter cold.

The nor’easter thrashed parts of 10 states and some major population centers, including Philadelphia, New York and Boston. By midday, more than 18 inches of snow had fallen on parts of New Jersey’s shore and eastern Long Island.

Areas closest to the Atlantic coast bore the brunt. Boston, in the nor’easter’s crosshairs, could get more than 2 feet of snow. Winds gusted at 70 mph or higher at several spots in Massachusetts, including Nantucket Island and Provincetown, at the tip of Cape Cod. Most flights into and out of the airports serving New York, Boston and Philadelphia were canceled Saturday,

according to FlightAware. More than 4,500 flights were canceled across the U.S. Amtrak canceled all its high-speed Acela trains between Boston and Washington and canceled or limited other service.

Across the region, residents hunkered down to avoid whiteout conditions and stinging snow hurled by fierce winds. Business closed or opened late.

Video on social media showed wind and waves battering North Weymouth, south of Boston, flooding streets with a slurry of frigid water. Other video showed a street underwater on Nantucket and waves crashing against the windows of a building in Plymouth.

In the seaside town of Newburyport, near the New Hampshire border, officials encouraged residents along the shore to move to higher ground.

Over 100,000 homes and businesses lost power in Massachusetts, with failures mounting. No other states reported widespread outages.

The storm had two saving graces: Dry snow less capable of snapping trees and tearing down power lines, and its timing on a weekend, when schools were closed and few people were

commuting.

Parts of 10 states were under blizzard warnings: Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey, along with much of the Delmarva Peninsula in Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. Officials in all those states warned people to stay off the roads.

Rhode Island, all of which was under a blizzard warning, banned all nonemergency road travel.

In West Hartford, Connecticut, a tractor-trailer jackknifed on Interstate 84, closing several lanes. Massachusetts banned heavy trucks from interstate highways.

New York Gov. Kathy Hochul advised people to stay home as the storm lingered longer than expected, and she warned of below-zero windchills after it passes. The state had declared a state of emergency Friday evening. “This is a very serious storm, very serious. We’ve been preparing for this. This could be life-threatening,” Hochul said. “It’s high winds, heavy snow, blizzard conditions — all the elements of a classic nor’easter.”

Police on Long Island said



A man carefully walks down snow-covered subway stairs Saturday in the Bushwick section of the Brooklyn borough of New York City during a winter storm. BRITAINY NEWMAN/AP

they had to help motorists stuck in the snow. New York City expected up to a foot of snow by midafternoon.

In Philadelphia, where 6 inches fell by early Saturday, few drivers ventured onto streets covered in knee-high drifts.

Delaware allowed only essential personnel to drive in two of its three counties.

Virginia, where a blizzard this month stranded hundreds of motorists for hours on Interstate 95, did

not hesitate to get resources at the ready.

Ocean City, Maryland, recorded at least a foot of snow. Maryland State Police tweeted that troopers had received more than 670 calls for service and responded to over 90 crashes by midmorning.

Hardy New Englanders took the storm in stride.

Dave McGillivray, race director for the Boston Marathon, jokingly invited the public to his suburban

Boston home on Saturday for a free snow-shoveling clinic.

“I will provide the driveway and multiple walkways to ensure your training is conducted in the most life-like situation,” he said.

Washington and Baltimore got some snow but were largely spared. The worst of the nor’easter was expected to blow by Sunday morning into Canada, where several provinces were under warnings.



President Sergio Mattarella, center, confers with Senate President Maria Elisabetta Alberti Casellati, left, and Chamber of Deputies chief Roberto Fico. QUIRINALE PRESS OFFICE/AFP

Italy’s 80-year-old president wins vote to stay

By Frances D’emilio
Associated Press

ROME — Italian President Sergio Mattarella has been elected to a second seven-year term as the country’s head of state, ending days of political impasse as party leaders struggled to pick his successor.

Earlier on Saturday, lawmakers entreated Mattarella, 80, who had said he didn’t want a second mandate, to change his mind and agree to reelection by

lawmakers in Parliament and regional delegates.

That move followed days of fruitless efforts by political leaders to reach a consensus on a candidate.

Mattarella won in the eighth round of voting when he clinched the minimum of 505 votes needed from the 1,009 Grand Electors.

In the run-up to the presidential election this week, Mattarella repeatedly said he didn’t want another stint. He even rented an apartment in Rome to prepare

for his move from the presidential palace atop the Quirinal Hill.

But after a seventh round of balloting in six days in Parliament by lawmakers and special regional representatives failed to yield any consensus on a presidential candidate, party whips and regional governors visited Mattarella at the presidential palace to solicit his willingness to serve again.

Rai state TV said Premier Mario Draghi, a non-partisan former chief of the Euro-

pean Central Bank who is leading a pandemic unity government, telephoned party leaders to encourage the lobbying.

Draghi had indicated he would be willing to move into the president’s role, but some feared that would prompt an early election.

Democratic Party chief Enrico Letta, whose Senate whip was among lawmakers meeting Saturday with Mattarella, indicated that Italy’s head of state had agreed to serve again.

FBI accuses American woman of prominent role in IS terror group

From news services

The FBI has arrested an American woman who federal prosecutors said had risen through the ranks of the Islamic State group in Syria to become a battalion commander, training women and children to use assault rifles and suicide belts, the Justice Department disclosed Saturday.

The woman, Allison Fluke-Ekren, 42, a former teacher from Kansas, was charged with providing material support to a terrorist organization. The circumstances of her capture in Syria were not immediately known, but the FBI flew her to Virginia on Friday to face prosecution.

Investigators said Fluke-Ekren was smuggled into Syria in 2012 from Libya. She traveled to the country, according to one witness, because she wanted to wage “violent jihad,” Raj Parekh, a federal prosecutor, wrote in a detention memo that was made public Saturday.

According to a criminal complaint filed in 2019, a witness told the FBI that Fluke-Ekren and her husband brought \$15,000 to Syria to buy weapons. Her husband, the witness said, eventually rose to be the commander of all snipers in Syria in 2014. He later died in an airstrike while conducting a terrorist attack on behalf of the Islamic State group, investigators said. Fluke-Ekren met her husband in the United States, according to court documents.

According to the detention memo, the mayor of the Syrian city of Raqqa, the militant group's self-proclaimed capital, approved the opening of a military battalion to train women to help defend the city. Fluke-Ekren, investigators said, soon became the leader and organizer of it.

Witnesses said that Fluke-Ekren taught classes for members of the battalion, and on one occasion, a young child of hers was seen holding an assault rifle. One witness said that more than 100 women and girls had received training from Fluke-Ekren.

A witness also said that Fluke-Ekren claimed to have tried to send a message to her family with the goal of tricking them into believing she was dead so the U.S. government would stop trying to find her.

She told the witness that she never wanted to return to the United States and wanted to die a martyr in Syria.

UN experts' slaying: A military court in Congo has condemned about 50 people to death nearly five years after the murders of United Nations investigators Michael Sharp and Zaida Catalan in central Congo's Kasai region.

The President of the Kasai Occidental Military Court, Brig. Gen. Jean-Paulin Ntshayokolo said Saturday that of the 54 defendants, one officer is sentenced to 10 years for violating orders and two others were acquitted.

Those sentenced to death will serve out life sentences, as Congo has observed a moratorium on the death penalty since 2003.

Sharp, who was American, and Catalan, of Sweden, were assassinated on March 12, 2017 in the Kasai Central region while on a field visit with representatives of Kamwina Nsapu, a militia active in Kasai whose customary chief Jean-Pierre Mponde was killed by Congolese army troops in August 2016.

Sharp, the panel's coordinator and expert on armed groups, and Catalan, a humanitarian expert,



Funeral farewell: The coffin of Vietnamese Buddhist monk Thich Nhat Hanh is carried to the street Saturday during his funeral in Hue, Vietnam. The service was held a week after the renowned Zen master died at the age of 95. Nhat Hanh was globally recognized for spreading the practice of mindfulness and socially engaged Buddhism. **THANH VO/AP**

embarked on the field visit from Kananga, the provincial capital of Kasai Central, toward the locality of Bunkonde.

The two U.N. experts were investigating the violence in Kasai on behalf of the U.N. Security Council. Their bodies were then found in a shallow grave two weeks later.

Threat on Biden: A Kansas man who told a Secret Service agent that he was “coming for” President Joe Biden was charged Friday with making threats against the president, according to federal court documents.

The man, Scott Ryan Merryman, made the threats over three days, starting Tuesday, when he called police in Independence, Kansas, and said he was heading to Washington, D.C., to see the president, according to an affidavit filed in U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland.

The U.S. Secret Service called Merryman on

Wednesday, and he told an agent that he had been instructed by God to visit Biden and to lop off “the head of the serpent in the heart of the nation,” according to an affidavit written by Lisa Koerber, an agent with the Secret Service.

Merryman said that he was not referring to Biden and that he was not making a threat against the president, the affidavit said.

It was not clear if Merryman had a lawyer, and he did not respond to messages for comment Saturday.

Nebraska fire: Two school-age children are among those killed after fire broke out early Saturday at a home in rural northern Nebraska.

The Norfolk Daily News reported that firefighters were called to a home in the small town of Pierce at 5:46 a.m. The newspaper, citing an emergency responder who spoke on condition of anonymity, reported “multiple deaths.”

No one was answering

phones at the Pierce Fire Department office on Saturday. A woman answering the phone at the Pierce County Sheriff's Office declined comment except to say more information would be released later.

Pierce Public Schools posted on its Facebook page that it was opening the high school Saturday to students seeking support due after “the loss of Pierce High and Pierce Elementary students.”

Taiwan relations: Taiwanese Vice President William Lai held a video call with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi — his second meeting with a senior U.S. politician in two days — on topics including human rights in China.

Pelosi, who has called for a diplomatic boycott of next month's Beijing Winter Olympics, reiterated her concern about Chinese human rights abuses, according to a senior Democratic aide familiar with the call. She also discussed

strong bipartisan support in Congress for Taiwan, according to the aide.

Vice President Kamala Harris greeted Lai at the inauguration of Honduran President Xiomara Castro on Thursday, a fleeting encounter that risks increasing tension between Washington and Beijing.

Lai, whose country is regarded by China as a breakaway province, described Pelosi as a friend of Taiwan and a champion of human rights.

China regularly protests any interactions by foreign officials with those from Taipei. Lai and Harris chatted for about 30 seconds according to Kolas Yotaka, spokesperson for the Taiwanese president's office, who added that Lai thanked the U.S. for its "rock-solid" support of the island.

The U.S. has recognized Beijing under its "one China policy," without clarifying its position on Taiwan's sovereignty, making for notoriously delicate diplomacy.

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WORLD & NATION

Pulling back curtain to parry Russia

US, allies publicize intel to preempt disinformation push

By Nomaan Merchant
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a break from the past, the U.S. and its allies are increasingly revealing their intelligence findings as they confront Russian preparations for invading Ukraine, looking to undercut Russian President Vladimir Putin’s plans by exposing them and deflecting his efforts to shape world opinion.

The White House in recent weeks publicized what it said was a developing Russian “false-flag” operation to create pretext for an invasion. Britain named specific Ukrainians it accused of having ties to Russian intelligence officers plotting to overthrow President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. The U.S. also released a map of Russian military positions and detailed how officials believe Russia will try to attack Ukraine with as many as 175,000 troops.

Experts credit the White House for declassifying intelligence and moving to rebut false claims before they’re made — a so-called “prebuttal” that undercuts their effectiveness better than an after-the-fact explanation.

But the release of information isn’t without risks. Intelligence assessments carry varying degrees of certainty, and beyond offering photos of troop movements, the U.S. and its allies have provided little other proof. Moscow has dismissed Washington’s claims as hysteria and invoked past American intelligence failures, including false information put forward about Iraq’s weapons programs.

There are no clear signs of change so far from Russia, which continues to move forces toward Ukraine and into Belarus, an ally



A United States congressional delegation led by Rep. Gregory Meeks, D-N.Y., third right, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, gives a briefing Friday after meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Kyiv. EFREM LUKATSKY/AP

to Ukraine’s north. There is growing pessimism in Washington and London about ongoing diplomatic efforts and a belief that Putin will likely mount some sort of invasion in the next several weeks.

Russia is known for using disinformation as a tactic to sow confusion and discord as part of its overall conflict strategy. When Russia invaded Ukraine’s Crimean Peninsula in 2014, it mounted a campaign to sway ethnic Russian residents of the territory. State media and social media accounts linked to Russia promoted allegations that the West was manipulating protests in Kyiv and false or unconfirmed tales of lurid crimes committed by Ukrainian forces.

This time, the U.S. and allies say, Russia is trying to portray Ukrainian leaders as aggressors and to persuade its own citizens to support military action. At the same time, the U.S. and its allies

allege, Russia has positioned operatives in eastern Ukraine who could use explosives to carry out acts of sabotage against Russia’s own proxy forces and then blame Kyiv.

The White House has repeatedly highlighted what it sees as disinformation and is privately sharing additional intelligence with allies including Ukraine. The State Department recently published a fact sheet listing and rejecting several Russian claims. And the Treasury Department sanctioned four men accused of ties to influence operations intended to set the pretext in Ukraine for a new invasion.

White House press secretary Jen Psaki described a “strategic decision to call out disinformation when we see it.”

“We are much more cognizant of the Russian disinformation machine than we were in 2014,” she said Wednesday, adding, “We need to be very clear

with the global community and the U.S. public what they’re trying to do and why.”

A European Union official told reporters Friday that Moscow-aligned outlets are promoting justifications for conflict in a similar manner to eight years ago. One narrative those outlets are promoting — in apparent response to the recent American allegations — is the U.S. may be planning its own false-flag operation to trigger a confrontation in eastern Ukraine.

Moscow continues to make demands that NATO not accept Ukraine or further expand to any other countries. And after British intelligence accused him of being a possible Russia-backed candidate for president, Ukrainian politician Yevheniy Murayev denied the claim and told the AP that it “looks ridiculous and funny.”

Meanwhile, Washington and Moscow go back

and forth online. Kremlin-backed RT.com on Dec. 21 posted a video alleging “US private military companies are amassing CHEMICAL COMPONENTS in Eastern Ukraine.” The State Department rejected that claim in its fact sheet on Russian propaganda. Russia’s Foreign Ministry then responded with tweets “debunking @StateDept ‘facts’ on Russian disinformation on Ukraine.”

Washington’s efforts have raised questions in Kyiv, where Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has taken a different public approach of trying to tamp down public fears of an expanded war even as many Ukrainians prepare for possible combat.

Ukrainian officials privately question why the Biden administration is warning about an impending invasion but not imposing preemptive sanctions or taking action against the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline,

which has been criticized for giving Moscow more leverage over Ukraine and Western Europe. The Biden administration lobbied Democrats in Congress to oppose a Republican-sponsored bill that would have required the imposition of sanctions against the pipeline, which has not yet gone into operation.

The White House has threatened tough sanctions if Russia does invade and is preparing to move forces to NATO’s eastern flank in the event of an invasion. The U.S. and Western allies are also sending weapons and missile systems to Ukraine.

Molly McKew, a writer and lecturer on Russian influence, said the administration’s moves to counter Russia’s influence efforts needed to be accompanied by a clearer statement of American goals and plans to repel any invasion.

Publicly identifying Russia’s actions alone will not stop Russia from carrying them out, said McKew, a former adviser to President Mikhail Saakashvili of Georgia, which fought a war in 2008 with Russia and still is trying to regain control of separatist regions backed by Moscow.

“They’re trying to apply disinformation thinking to military domains,” she said. “You absolutely cannot expose away the crisis.”

In both the U.S. and Ukraine, experts say, there is far more societal awareness now of state-sponsored disinformation. Russia in the past several years has continued to bombard Ukrainians with text messages and false stories during the ongoing war in eastern Ukraine in which at least 14,000 people have died.

But publicly accusing Russia of misbehavior is an ultimately a limited deterrent, said Bret Schafer, senior fellow at the German Marshall Fund’s Alliance for Securing Democracy. “They don’t care about reputational damage.”



A boy plays last week in the shadow of high-rise buildings in Jakarta, the capital. Indonesia plans to move and build a new capital on the island of Borneo. DITA ALANGKARA/AP

Indonesia’s polluted, sinking capital moving to a new spot

By Edna Tarigan and Niniek Karmini
Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia — Jakarta is congested, polluted, prone to earthquakes and rapidly sinking into the Java Sea.

Now the government is leaving, and moving the country’s capital to the island of Borneo.

President Joko Widodo envisions the construction of a new capital as a panacea for the problems plaguing Jakarta, reducing its population while allowing the country to start fresh with a “sustainable city” that has good public transportation, is integrated with its natural environment and is in an area that’s not prone to natural disasters.

“The construction of the new capital city is not merely a physical move of government offices,” Widodo said this month ahead of parliament’s approval of the plan. “The main goal is to build a smart new city, a new city that is competitive at the global level, to build a new locomotive for the transformation ... toward an Indonesia based on innovation and

technology based on a green economy.”

Skeptics worry, however, about the environmental impact of plunking a sprawling 990-square-mile city down in Borneo’s East Kalimantan province, which is home to orangutans, leopards and a wide array of other wildlife, as well as committing \$34 billion to the ambitious project amid a pandemic.

“The new capital city’s strategic environmental study shows that there are at least three basic problems,” said Dwi Sawung, an official with the WALHI environmental group.

“There are threats to water systems and risks of climate change, threats to flora and fauna, and threats of pollution and environmental damage,” she said.

First proposed in 2019, Widodo’s plan to establish the city of Nusantara — an old Javanese term meaning “archipelago” — will entail constructing government buildings and housing from scratch. Initial estimates were that some 1.5 million civil servants would be relocated to the city, some 1,200 miles northeast of Jakarta, though ministries

and government agencies are still working to finalize that number.

It will be located in the vicinity of Balikpapan, an East Kalimantan seaport with a population of about 700,000.

Jakarta itself is home to about 10 million people and three times that number in the greater metropolitan area.

It has been described as the world’s most rapidly sinking city, and at the current rate, it is estimated that one-third of the city could be submerged by 2050. The main cause is uncontrolled ground water extraction, but it has been exacerbated by the rising Java Sea due to climate change.

Beyond that, its air and ground water are heavily polluted, it floods regularly and its streets are so clogged that it is estimated congestion costs the economy \$4.5 billion a year.

In constructing a purpose-built capital, Indonesia will be taking a path that others have in the past, including Brazil, Myanmar and Pakistan. The relocation process is scheduled to be completed by 2045.

As vaccines for children stall, appeals aimed at wary parents

By Jan Hoffman
The New York Times

For weeks, the school principal had been imploring Kemika Cossey: Would she please allow her children, ages 7 and 11, to get COVID-19 shots?

Cossey remained firm. A hard no.

But “Mr. Kip” — Brigham Kiplinger, principal of Garrison Elementary School in Washington, D.C. — swatted away the “no.”

Since the federal government authorized the coronavirus vaccine for children ages 5-11 nearly three months ago, Kiplinger has been calling the school’s parents, texting, nagging and cajoling daily. Acting as a vaccine advocate has become central to his role as an educator.

Largely through Kiplinger’s skill as a parent vax whisperer, Garrison Elementary has turned into a public health anomaly: Of the 250 Garrison Wildcats in kindergarten through fifth grade, 80% have had at least one shot, he said.

But as the omicron variant has stormed through U.S. classrooms the rate of vaccination overall for America’s 28 million children ages 5-11 remains even lower than health experts had feared. According to a new analysis by the Kaiser Family Foundation based on federal data, only 18.8% are fully vaccinated and 28.1% have received one dose.

“It’s going to be a long slog at this point to get the kids vaccinated,” said Jennifer Kates, a senior vice president at Kaiser who specializes in global health policy. She says it will take unwavering persistence like that of Kiplinger, whom she knows firsthand because her child attends his school. “It’s hard, hard work to reach parents.”

After the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was authorized for younger children in late October, the out-of-



Kemika Cossey with her children, Zurie, left, and Zamir, students at Garrison Elementary School in Washington, D.C., on Tuesday. ERIN SCHAFF/THE NEW YORK TIMES

the-gate surge in demand lasted a scant few weeks.

“I was surprised at how quickly the interest in the vaccine for kids petered out,” Kates said. “Even parents who had been vaccinated themselves were more cautious about getting their kids vaccinated.”

Public health officials say that persuading parents to get their younger children vaccinated is crucial not only to sustaining in-person education but also to containing the pandemic overall. Unvaccinated elementary school children remain a large, turbulent source of spread. Traveling to and from school on buses, traversing school hallways, bathrooms, classrooms and gyms, they can unknowingly act as viral vectors countless times a day.

Despite the proliferation of COVID-crowded hospitals, sick children and the highly contagious aspect of omicron, many parents do not believe the virus is dangerous enough to warrant risking their child’s health on a novel vaccine.

Health communication experts additionally blame that view on the early muddled messaging around omicron, which was initially described as “mild” but also as a variant that could pierce a vaccine’s protection. Many parents

interpreted those messages to mean that the shots served little purpose. In fact, the vaccines have been shown to strongly protect against severe illness and death, although they are not as effective in preventing infections with omicron as with other variants.

Cossey, the Garrison parent who staunchly resisted Kiplinger’s entreaties for weeks, had worried that the vaccine could exacerbate her son’s many allergies. “It took me a little minute to do a lot more research,” she said.

Then, last month, she took both children to a school clinic. Yes, her pediatrician had encouraged her, but she also gives credit to Kiplinger.

At the school’s clinic, “Mr. Kip took a million pictures,” she added. “He was just superexcited that I decided to come in.”

Kiplinger is determined to convert the remaining vaccine holdouts at Garrison. At the most recent vaccine clinic, he stood by as a mother argued over the phone with her husband. “The mom and her four Wildcats wanted the shots, but for the dad it was a ‘no.’ It broke my heart,” he said.

“But we have another clinic coming up soon,” he added, “and I’m hoping that maybe he’ll come around.”



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WORLD & NATION

In an Iraqi town, Chinese tongue seals ties

Language school projects Beijing power into Mideast

By Samya Kullab
Associated Press

IRBIL, Iraq — In a classroom in northern Iraq, Zhiwei Hu presides over his students as a conductor would an orchestra. He cues with a question, and the response from his students resounds in perfect, fluent Chinese.

The 52-year-old has been teaching the cohort of 14 Iraqi Kurdish students at the behest of the Chinese Consulate in the northern city of Irbil.

His class is part of an experiment with the local Salahaddin University: If these students succeed in graduating, the Chinese Language Department would be officially open for enrollment, giving the growing plethora of Chinese companies in Iraq's Kurdish region their pick for hires.

Regin Yasin sits at the front. "I wanted to learn Chinese because I know China will have an upper hand in the future," the 20-year-old student said. "China will expand here, that's why I chose it."

China's interests in Iraq, anchored in energy to quench its growing needs, are expanding. Beijing is building power plants, factories, water treatment facilities, as well as badly needed schools across the country.

Dozens of contracts signed in recent years ensure China's growing footprint, even as major Western companies, including the U.S., plot their exit. While Iraqi officials say they desire a greater U.S. presence, they find appeal in China's offer of development without conditions for democracy or reform and its deft diplomacy.

"The language school is a projection of Chinese soft power, to familiarize the region with China. The more familiar they are, the



Chinese lecturer Zhiwei Hu speaks to students in the Chinese language department on Jan. 19, 2021, at Salahaddin University in Irbil, Iraq. The Chinese language school in northern Iraq is attracting students across the region. KHALID MOHAMMED/AP

more attracted they will be to Chinese goods," said Sardar Aziz, a researcher who recently wrote a Kurdish-language book about China-Iraq relations.

Chinese companies dominate Iraq's key economic sector, oil, and Beijing consumes 40% of Iraq's crude exports. But from a narrow focus on hydrocarbons, Chinese investments have grown to include other industries, finance, transport, construction and communications.

The shift was spurred following Chinese President Xi Jinping's 2013 announcement of the ambitious Belt and Road Initiative, dubbed the new Silk Road, composed of a vast array of development and investment initiatives from East Asia through the Middle East to Europe. The U.S. considers it unsettling, akin to a Trojan horse for Chinese expansion.

The initiative calls for

China to develop relations with states along its path through political coordination, infrastructure connectivity, trade and financial integration, and people-to-people bonds.

In 2017, the Chinese Consulate approached Salahaddin University's College of Languages with the idea of a Chinese language department. Opening a school in the capital Baghdad came with security risks, but the northern Kurdish-run region was relatively secure.

At first, the university wasn't sure it would appeal to students or that it could find qualified instructors, the college's dean, Atif Abdullah Farhadi, said.

So Farhadi required the consulate to provide and pay for teachers, textbooks, an audio lab and other classroom technologies and exchange opportunities in Beijing.

"They fulfilled all of the

demands," said Farhadi. The department opened in 2019 and is set to graduate its first cohort next year. "Then we will expand."

The students said learning to write in Mandarin, the official language of mainland China, was the hardest part. Thousands of special characters had to be memorized.

And then there was pronunciation.

"Their tongues trembled," Hu said. After five hours of lessons, five times a week over three years, "They are speaking very well."

Farhadi wishes it could be the same for the English Language Department; the U.S. and British consulates have seldom offered help, he said.

"They don't support us at all," he said.

As China grows its economic footprint, Western oil firms are reducing theirs. Many have expressed discontent with Iraq's risky investment environment and

unfavorable contract terms.

U.S. oil giant Exxon Mobil's exit from West Qurna 1 field last year came despite Iraqi pleas to stay, Oil Minister Ihsan Abduljabbar Ismail told The Associated Press at the time. The presence of a major U.S. company in Iraq had long served as a reassurance for other companies.

British Petroleum, operator of Iraq's largest oil field Rumaila, plans to spin off its business there with another entity jointly owned with China's CNPC. Other oil companies, including Russia's Lukoil, are demanding amendments to contract terms as a condition to remain.

Chinese companies dominate oil contracts, from operating fields to providing downstream services, and they continue to win more. Recently, Iraq finalized terms with China's Sinopec to develop Mansuriya gas field, which could produce

300 million standard cubic feet per day if approved by Iraq's next government.

Investing in Iraq is a risk that China is willing to take. With lower profit margins, Chinese firms always offer more attractive, lower-price contracts, industry officials and Iraqi officials said.

Thursday is "Chinese Corner" at the language department.

Chinese businesses — from oil to wallpapering — come and meet the students under the pretext of practicing language skills. Most end up with promises for future employment.

"We speak in Chinese and talk about business and the future," said one student, Hiwar Saadi. "They come to us to meet us and make a connection."

Two students are already working part-time for a Chinese telecommunications firm as translators.

"It's the opposite in every other department in the university. Supply is high but the demand for jobs is low," Farhadi said. "Here, the students are turning down job offers in order to focus on study."

Lessons cover aspects of Chinese culture and history as well. Hu is always quick to remind the students of Beijing and Irbil's shared golden past: Iraq was part of the ancient Silk Road trade route, linking China's Han dynasty with the West.


A former Iraqi ambassador to Beijing, Mohammed Sabir, said that during his time there, Chinese officials often recalled their shared history. Many also remembered how in the 1950s, Iraq shipped tons of dates to China to help during famine.

When Sabir began his post in 2004, Iraq-China trade stood at around half a billion dollars. When he left in 2010 it was \$10 billion. Last year it reached roughly \$30 billion.

"They need our oil, and we need to find a market to sell our oil. The road goes two ways," he said.

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WORLD & NATION



In Jackson, Tennessee, city employees could one day have the option of converting their paychecks into Bitcoin. Above, businesses in Jackson. HOUSTON COFIELD/THE NEW YORK TIMES PHOTOS

Crypto mayors on the rise

For this budding political breed, digital currencies and other buzzy new tech have power to transform

By David Yaffe-Bellany
The New York Times

JACKSON, Tenn. — Scott Conger, mayor of Jackson, Tennessee, campaigned on a modest promise to improve local infrastructure. He planned to build sidewalks, open a senior center and repair the aging stormwater disposal system in his city of 68,000, about halfway between Nashville and Memphis. But as he begins his fourth year in office, Conger, 38, has adopted a new favorite cause: cryptocurrencies. He has pledged to give city employees the option of converting their paychecks into Bitcoin and has outlined plans to install a digital mining network in a deserted wing of City Hall. The aim, he said, is to make Jackson a Southeastern tech center. Like many Americans, Conger discovered cryptocurrencies during the pandemic and soon fell down an internet rabbit hole. His plans have turned him into something of a celebrity in the world of digital currencies — a strange distinction for the leader of a midsize industrial hub where Pringles potato chips are manufactured. “Bitcoin is a great financial equalizer,” Conger declared this month at City Hall. “It’s a hedge against inflation. It can bridge that wealth gap.” The ballooning popularity of bitcoin and other digital currencies has given rise to a strange new political breed: the crypto mayor. Eric Adams, New York’s new mayor, accepted his first paycheck in bitcoin and another cryptocurrency, Ether. Francis Suarez, Miami’s mayor, headlines cryptocurrency conferences. Now even mayors of smaller towns are trying to incorporate cryptocurrency into municipal government, courting startups and experimenting with buzzy new technologies like nonfungible tokens, or NFTs, to raise money for public projects. Their growing ranks reflect the increasing mainstream acceptance of digital currencies, which are highly volatile. The mayors’ embrace of cryptocurrency is also a recognition that its underlying blockchain technology — essentially a distributed ledger system — may create new revenue streams for cities and reshape some basic functions of local government. “Mayors rationally want to attract high-income citizens who pay their taxes

and impose few costs on the municipality,” said Joseph Grundfest, a business professor at Stanford University. “Crypto geeks fit this bill perfectly.” But as with many ambitious cryptocurrency projects, it’s unclear whether these local initiatives will ultimately amount to much. So far, most are either largely symbolic or largely theoretical. And the mayors’ aims are partly political: Cryptocurrency boosterism has a useful bipartisan appeal, garnering popularity among both antigovernment conservatives and socially liberal tech moguls. “You can do these things because you want to be associated with dudes with AR-15s, or you want to be associated with Meta,” said Finn Brunton, a technology studies professor at the University of California at Davis, who wrote a 2019 book about the history of cryptocurrency. “A lot of it is hype and hot air.”

Facing obstacles

In Jackson, Conger has become a frequent guest on cryptocurrency podcasts, where he is hailed as a leader in “the army of Satoshi,” a reference to Bitcoin’s shadowy founder, Satoshi Nakamoto. A former college football player, Conger sometimes goes to work wearing socks emblazoned with tiny orange bitcoins. But his ambitions have encountered obstacles. While he’s close to establishing a system for city employees to invest a portion of their paychecks in bitcoin, his mining proposal has proved impossible to institute under existing laws. Conger wants to use public money to plug a bank of computers into the Bitcoin network, an energy-guzzling process that could generate new coins for the city. He has even found a place to put the hardware: a suite of rooms in City Hall that have remained unfinished since the building opened in 1998. But a state law limits the types of assets that cities can invest in, partly to protect residents from market volatility. Conger and other local officials are working on new legislation to add Bitcoin to the list of permissible investments. In many ways, Conger is following in the footsteps of Miami’s Suarez, who has emerged as the crypto-bro-in-chief of mayors. (The two men occasionally text; Conger’s communications director calls it a



Scott Conger, the mayor of Jackson, Tennessee, is one of a growing number of leaders starting cryptocurrency projects for their cities. He calls Bitcoin a “great financial equalizer,” although some residents say they are skeptical of his ambitions.

“Bitcoin bromance.”) Suarez has positioned Miami as a “crypto capital” and thrown his support behind MiamiCoin, a cryptocurrency token anyone can buy or mine, with a portion of the proceeds flowing into city coffers. He recently jostled on Twitter with Adams of New York over which of them loves cryptocurrency more. “Every time I would talk about crypto, my analytics would go through the roof,” said the 44-year-old Suarez. Suarez now styles himself as a kind of cryptocurrency diplomat. After taking over this month as president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, a nonpartisan coalition of city mayors, he urged members to sign a “crypto compact” calling on the federal government to eschew overly aggressive regulation of the industry. Last month, Suarez had a private Zoom call with Gary Gensler, chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, who has called for increased scrutiny of cryptocurrencies. “It was kind of funny,” Suarez said. “He said, ‘I think I should have done a little bit more homework.’ It was his own way of saying that I really knew what I was talking about.” (The SEC declined to comment.) Suarez’s vice chair at the Conference of Mayors is a fellow cryptocurrency enthusiast, Hillary Schieve, who’s in her second term as the mayor of Reno, Nevada.

Last year, she announced plans to turn a popular whale sculpture in downtown Reno into an NFT, a unique digital item that can be traded by cryptocurrency investors. The goal, Schieve said, was to funnel the profits into Reno’s arts scene. “It would be great to cut out the middleman,” Schieve said. “I’m not a big fan of banks.” A decentralized city government built on blockchain technology has been a long-standing goal of cryptocurrency fans. Vitalik Buterin, one of the founders of Ethereum, the blockchain behind Ether, wrote a blog post on the topic in October. And last year, a group of cryptocurrency investors bought 40 acres in Wyoming, aiming to build a blockchain city run by a decentralized network of investors, each of whom would vote on important decisions.

Starting small

For now, most cryptocurrency-enthused officials are focused on comparatively modest projects. Mark Wheeler, chief information officer for Philadelphia, became fascinated with cryptocurrency in 2018 after hearing about an effort in Cook County, Illinois, to list property records on a decentralized database. “Improving the quality of property-data management inside city government is like the white whale that

I’ve been trying to catch,” he said. Wheeler stopped listening to NPR in the morning, tuning into cryptocurrency podcasts instead. In November, he invited experts to propose initiatives for Philadelphia; the original Bitcoin white paper is now posted on the city’s website. The fervor has spread to small-town America. Last year, Jalen Nelson, a 26-year-old cryptocurrency enthusiast, cold-emailed 2,000 U.S. mayors, hoping to engage them in discussions about blockchain technology. He got one response — from Chris Swanson, mayor of Two Harbors, Minnesota, a town of about 4,000 on the shore of Lake Superior. Swanson was taken with the idea of forming a decentralized autonomous organization, or DAO — a collective of cryptocurrency investors — that would pool money to fund projects in Two Harbors in exchange for some kind of voting power over the new initiatives. “Trying to get something built can be really complicated, and you end up going to the same pools of money over and over and over again,” said Swanson, 44. “The projects that the community wants to see could get done quicker.” Nelson, who recently moved to San Antonio from California, has never set foot in Two Harbors, where winter temperatures can drop well below zero. (On a recent Zoom call, he chose

a tropical background, with palm trees swaying in the breeze.) For now, the project remains entirely theoretical. But with the mayor’s backing, Nelson is planning to establish a trust fund that would serve as the basis of the DAO. “I’m dreaming,” he said. “Two Harbors could turn into Disneyland.” Back in Jackson, Conger said he just wanted to make the city a place where his children would be comfortable settling down after college. He comes from a respected local political family: His grandfather served as Jackson’s mayor, and a great-great-great-grandfather ran the city in 1861 and 1871, when mayors served one-year terms. Still, Conger acknowledged that some Jackson residents were skeptical of his cryptocurrency ambitions. “I don’t know that I’d want my retirement in that,” said Bobby Maness, 54, an electrician, as he sat down for lunch at a local burger joint this month. “What I worry is, when I get there, will it be worth anything?” Conger has no such concerns. In his office, he keeps what looks like a copy of the Jane Austen novel “Pride and Prejudice.” Conger is not an Austen fan and the book is not actually a book. It’s a decorative box concealing a safe where he stores his personal Bitcoin wallet.

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7) Business Analyst gather business reqs; analyze and document and system requirements. Perform GAT analysis, Impact Analysis, SWOT Analysis, Cost Benefit analysis, Risk analysis. Work on Clear Quest, Requisite Pro, Babok, ITL, Scrum, Web Accessibility, IBM FileNet, Maximo, BPMN and Balsamiq Mock-up tool.

8) Senior .Net Developer to design, develop, analyze, customize the application and deployment of customer specifications. Develop web services and n-tier web applications using ASP.net, Silverlight, C#, WPF,T-SQL, PL/SQL, UI, HTML5, MS SQL Server, Oracle, ILDASM, Nant, Gacutil.

9) DevOps Engineer to design, implement and maintain continuous integration and continuous delivery and deploy multiple applications using Jenkins, Maven, NPM, Webpack, Gradle, Ansible, Docker Kubernetes.

10) Big Data Engineer to design, develop, test and install high performance data intensive applications using Hadoop based technologies. Work on Hadoop, Apache Spark, HDFS, Hive, Sqoop, Oozie, Impala, Java.

11) Java Engineer to design, develop, web applications using Java/J2ee, JDBC, Spring Framework. Develop Java framework. Create and maintain python/shell scripts to perform automated tasks on servers. Work on Git, GitHub, Bitbucket, Stash, Subversion control files.

12) Software Engineer to design, develop, and build brand-new applications and implement using HTML, Java Script, AngularJS, ReactJS, CSS, C#.NET, ASP.NET, SQL Server, SSRS and API.

13) Senior SAS Software Engineer play an active role in the planning and design of clinical studies, solve discrepancy queries and suggest solutions for database design. Work on SAS programming and creating SAS database and producing RPT.

Send resume to: Sagarsoft Inc, 200 Glastonbury Blvd., Ste 304, Glastonbury, CT 06033

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Infowave Systems has multiple openings for the following positions to work in Rocky Hill, CT and/or various client sites throughout the U.S. Must be willing to travel and/or relocate.

Java Software Developer : Perform design, deployment of scalable Enterprise Web applications. Create object & data models using object-oriented analysis & design. Perform EAI of legacy systems. Perform estimations, project plans, ROI, tech audits. Design apps using J2EE/MVC frameworks. Also work in UML, RUP, ORM tools, RDBMS on Unix & Windows.

Data Warehouse Business Intelligence Software Developer: Perform design, development of scalable EDW applications that includes data mining, data modeling, predictive modeling/analytcs, database design, ETL processes, mappings, deployment of BI interfaces. Perform performance tuning for ETL and BI apps. Involved in data governance & data quality. Also work in RDBMS & ERWIN.

Apply to: Infowave Systems, Attn: HR, 10 Waterchase Drive, III Floor, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or email to: careers@infowavesystems.com

Manager II, Operations
North Haven, CT

Amazon.com Services LLC
seeks candidates for the following (multiple positions available) in North Haven, CT: Manager II, Operations (Job ID 1880429). Oversee the day-to-day operations of one of the top 10 Amazon Robotics Fulfillment center in the Northeast America region of Amazon network for outbound operations (Pick & Inventory Control and Quality Analysis). Apply at: https://www.amazon.jobs/en/ Job ID: 1880429

Manager, Technical Consulting
Bristol, CT

Barry-Wehmiller Design Group
(Barry-Wehmiller sub). Position in Bristol, CT. Coordinate with sales projects and sales management group to develop technical industry and commercial strategies that promote products/ services with the ultimate responsibility to provide profitable value-based solutions and achieve the commercial plan for the account. Req. less than 10% dom./int'l travel. Requires Bachelors (Comp.Engr./IT/rltdtech.fld) & 6 yrs. exp. Must have exp. w/ Syteline, Infor CloudSuite Industrial program, including exp. w/ Infor Factory Track Technical, Infor Mongoose Technical & .Net/Sql Developer & Infor Mongoose. Mail resumes: Kim Cox, 1075 Windward Ridge Pkwy., Ste. 100, Alpharetta, GA 30050.

Sr. Consultant Bus. Data Analysis
Hartford, CT

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Position will lead impact analyses of all change requests to enterprise reference data sets, and provide consultation to change requesters and propose recommendations to Enterprise Data Strategy and Governance council advisors and members as appropriate; Apply online at https://thehartford.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/Careers_Restricted/job/Hartford-CT/Sr-Consultant-Business-Data-Analysis--Hartford--CT_R227092-1referencing Req# R227092/11474.163. Hartford Fire Insurance Company is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Street Maintainer I - Public Works
Hartford CT

Town of West Hartford
Town of West Hartford seeks qualified candidates to maintain the cleanliness and appearance of The Town's street infrastructure through manual work and use of maintenance equipment. Will participate in snow removal and ice control operations. For more information on minimum requirements and how to apply please visit the job openings page at www.westhartfordct.gov. Deadline: 02/18/22. EOE/MF

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CHESHIRE CT

TOWN OF CHESHIRE
Qualified candidates invited to submit for consideration for FT position. Responsible for management, administration & technical supervision of town maintenance & construction activities involving professional engineering work. Chance to develop & manage engineering support staff. Connecticut PE licensure required. Salary DOE. See Town web site @ www.cheshirect.org for additional info. Deadline for applying is close of business on 2/22/22. Cheshire is an EEOE, M/F/D/V

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Senior Software Engineer
Hartford, CT

Hartford Fire Insurance Company
Position responsible for the entire life-cycle of developing digital solutions in a fast-paced, entrepreneurial environment; create mobile and web applications that are user-friendly, effective, resilient, secure and appealing, and collect requirements from business partners. Apply online at (https://thehartford.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/Careers_Restricted/job/Hartford-CT/Senior-Software-Engineer---Hartford-CT--R227127-1) referencing Req#R227127 /11474.90. Hartford Fire Insurance is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Solutions Architect
Windsor, CT

VOYA Services Company
Develop and support business applications supporting webMethods (wM 10.3 or above) on both ESB and B2B integrations. Reqts: Bach's deg or foreign equiv in Comp Sci, IT, Engng, or reltd quantitative fld & 5 yrs of progressively responsible exp as a Software Developer in system/data analysis related to Application Integration, data management, data integration and data delivery work. Must have exp w/ the following: WebMethods (wM 10.3 on both ESB and B2B integrations) and Java J2EE; designing, developing and maintaining Integrations using Webservices using SOAP, REST protocols, FTP(s), HTTP(s), and AS2 security protocols; configuring the webMethods system parameter tuning for optimum performance and capacity planning; developing enterprise and web applications in the latest software development tools and programming languages including Java or other object-oriented programming languages and working with Sql, Oracle, or Exadata databases; and designing application solutions using cloud native technologies such as AWS and Azure public cloud platforms. To apply, please submit resume through www.voya.com & search by Job JR0025159 or job title, or contact Suzanne Pereira at Suzanne.Pereira@voya.com

Sr. Data Engr. - Lead Data Modeler
Hartford, CT

Hartford Fire Insurance Company
Sr. Data Engineer - Lead Data Modeler position. Work with Agile Scrum team to unlock Data Capabilities for The Hartford's Enterprise Data organization in IT to support Group Benefits of Business initiatives, and participate in the entire software development life-cycle process in support of continuous data delivery. Apply online at https://thehartford.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/Careers_Restricted/job/Hartford-CT/Sr-Data-Engineer-Lead-Data-Modeler--Hartford--CT_R227239-1 referencing Req#11474.262. Hartford Fire Insurance Company is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



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Senior Data Engineer
Hartford, CT

Hartford Fire Insurance Company
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Sr. Software Engineer
Windsor, CT

Hartford Fire Insurance Company
Position will guide software development teams to instrument their code to generate relevant metrics for performance and quality, and implement and maintain a cost effective monitoring solution for all environments. Candidate may telecommute up to 10%. Apply online at (https://thehartford.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/Careers_Restricted/job/Windsor-CT/Sr-Software-Engineer---Windsor-CT--R227062-1) referencing Req# R227062 /11474.314. Hartford Fire Insurance is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Sr. Systems Developer
Bristol, CT

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Develop, create, and modify computer applications software and specialized utility programs. Analyze and design relational databases and perform systems analysis. Email your resume re: job title & ad #983 to employer The Arthur G. Russell Co. Inc. at Shelly.Bove@arthurrussell.com.

Staff Software Engineer
Hartford, CT

Hartford Fire Insurance Company
Position will contribute to design, estimate, build, peer-review, and test practices with minimal supervision; develop and test fully functional components; troubleshoot and resolve application issues including performance; and, collaborate with team members to define requirements, solution architecture, and delivery planning activities. Apply online at (https://thehartford.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/Careers_Restricted/job/Hartford-CT/Staff-Software-Engineer--Hartford--CT_R227117-1) referencing Req#R227117 /11474.211.

System Planning Engineer
Hartford, CT

Eversource Energy Service Company
Has a position available in Hartford, CT. Plan an efficient and reliable electrical transmission grid across a wide geographic area using the latest industry software and methods to analyze and assess complex transmission systems. Lead regional and local reliability and/or market driven studies focused on voltage, thermal, transfer limit, short circuit, and stability assessments. Provide technical expertise for new generation interconnection projects and assist other teams with tasks related to the generation interconnection process. Fluent with various planning standards (e.g. NERC, NPCC, ISO-NE etc.) and planning software such as PSS/E and PSCAD. Assist in planning manufacturing, construction, and installation standards and specifications of electrical equipment. Integrate improvements to increase the precision and efficiency of transmission planning. Collaborate with engineers and project managers on system planning production efforts. Send application to: ATTN: Laurie Shuckero, Eversource Energy at laurie.shuckero@eversource.com. EOE
Please Reference Job ID: EE2021HD

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New York Times Crossword

Turns of Phrase

By Nancy Stark and Will Nediger / Edited by Will Shortz

Nancy Stark, of New York City, is a writer, lyricist and former editor for the Literary Guild book club. Will Nediger, of London, Ontario, is a professional crossword constructor. Nancy thought of this puzzle's theme (at 4 a.m. one night when she couldn't sleep), they brainstormed examples of it, Will constructed the grid and they both wrote the clues. This is their sixth collaboration for The Times. — W.S.

- ACROSS

1 Web site?

6 Browser window

9 Streaming service acquired by Fox in 2020

13 Civil rights grp. once led by M.L.K.

17 Fictional character who says, "I will take the ring, though I do not know the way"

18 Scorpion, for one

20 Wasn't overturned on appeal

21 Artists sketching pectorals?

23 Stays out all night?

24 Glowing or shining

25 Work rotations

26 French "I like"

27 "Right on!"

28 Spot at a casino

30 Either side of a beaming grin, in a phrase

31 Tony winner

32 McDonald

33 Vow to remain mum about hotel guests' secrets?

37 Hoops org.

40 Possibility

41 Scoffing sound

42 Driver of film

43 Nonbinary people, informally

47 Declined

49 Over-poetical?

50 Modern-day "carpe diem"

51 Early times in verse

52 Small distance covered by a naval armada?

56 First sitting prez to fly in an airplane

57 Words after walk or cash

58 Hyperbolic wait time
- DOWN

1 Home with a pointy roof

2 Worked on Wall Street

3 Bring to a repair shop, say

4 Creative springboard

5 Cereal once advertised by Woody

6 Subject for Laozi

7 Sounds from a lab

8 "The Art of Fugue" composer

9 One's kin, casually

10 Loosen, in a way

11 Some zeros and ones

12 Bar necessities, at times

13 It has several steps

14 What a dog walker and a strong-willed pooch might vie for?

15 Run easily

16 Makeup of some music libraries

19 Main

20 Huge quantity

21 Lacking color

22 Brief period of work

26 "Easy ... everything's going to be OK"

29 Bottle marked with a skull and crossbones

31 Cost for a spot

33 Garden-shed items
- ACROSS

10 Galosh

11 Lumberjack's favorite kind of beer?

12 "What are the ___?"

13 Audience for Cocomelon, the most-viewed YouTube channel in the U.S.

14 Omega's place

15 Columns with angles

34 Caramel-filled candy

35 "You can leave this to me"

36 Declaration by one who's done playing

38 Benjamin Franklin famously considered it "a rank coward" with "bad moral character"

39 "Te quiero" sentiment

43 Mideast V.I.P.

44 Response to "No offense"

45 The Bee Gees' Barry, Robin and Maurice Gibb? It might gather lint

46 Somersault

48 Adversary

53 To's opposite

54 Old-timey reproach

55 Scottish cap

58 Aromatic trees

61 Really bother

63 Jacqueline or Jacques

64 For sure, for short

65 Something a snowboarder catches

66 Last word of "Ulysses"

67 Goal in musical chairs

69 Nick of "48 Hrs."

70 Beer brand whose name spells an article of apparel backward

72 Knock on the head

74 Carolers' repertoire

75 ___ dancer

76 Minotaur's foot

77 Bird known in the U.K. as a diver

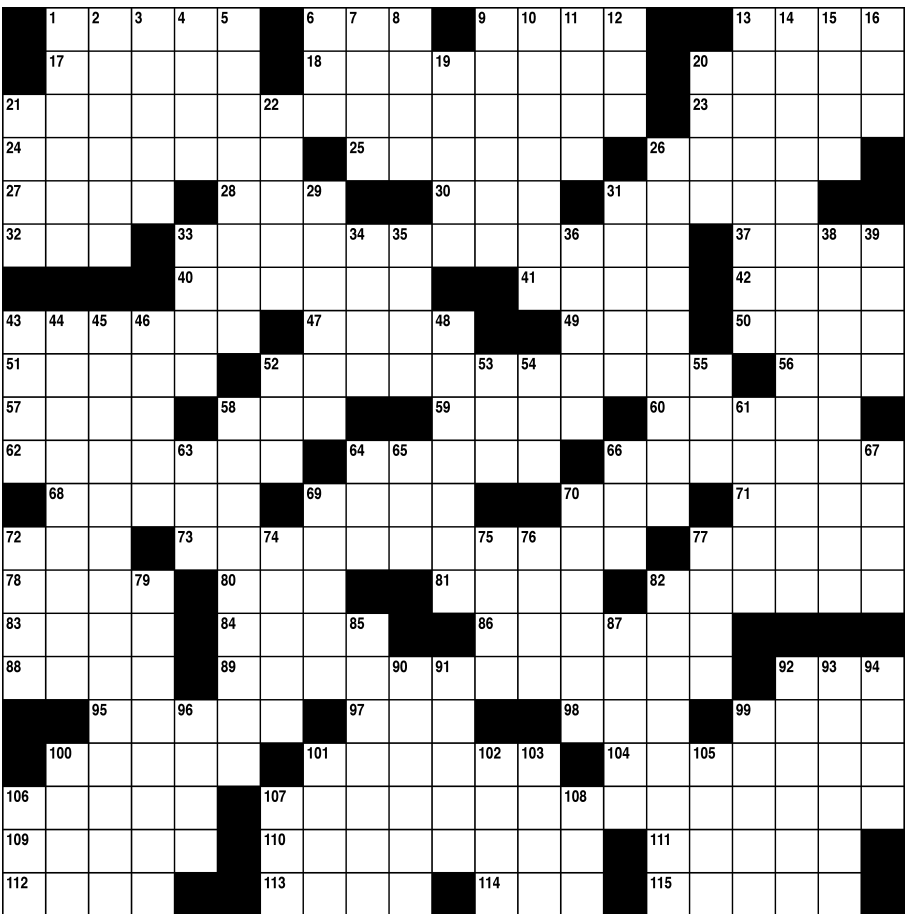
79 Draws

82 Red-light district establishment

85 Like some vodkas

87 Fly into a rant

90 Spuds



No. 0130

- 91 Tall tales

92 Dispensed with

93 N.H.L. team with five championship-winning seasons in the 1980s

94 Praising poetry

96 Ballet sections

99 Play station?

100 Got rid of

101 "Duh," in modern slang

102 Pine

103 Like the Radio City Music Hall sign

105 Harvest

106 Something swollen on a pro athlete?

107 Totally fine

108 Alternative to Webster's, in brief

Answer To Last Week's Puzzle:

Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Connecticut

Legal Notice – Town of Wethersfield, Connecticut
FIRST NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE FOR TAXES

Pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. 12-157, I, as the Tax Collector of the Town of Wethersfield, CT, having made lawful demand for payment of taxes due to me, and payment having been neglected or refused, I WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION the following described real properties, each property being located within the Town of Wethersfield, separately, to satisfy taxes, interest, and charges thereon:

Assessed on the Grand List of 2017 to 2020, 88 Stillman Road in the name of Patrick J. Conneely and Theresa M. Conneely, to satisfy taxes plus all charges accrued thereon: \$23,625.45 located at 88 Stillman Road, Assessor's Map ID 117/002, described in Wethersfield Land Records at Volume 0406, Page 0167.

Assessed on the Grand List of 2019, 110 Coleman Road in the name of Katharine Brunner Coyne, to satisfy taxes plus all charges accrued thereon: \$24,767.05 located at 110 Coleman Road, Assessor's Map ID 203/059, described in Wethersfield Land Records at Volume 1696, Page 0211.

Assessed on the Grand List of 2017 to 2020, 81 Schoolhouse Xing in the name of Karen Malenfant, to satisfy taxes plus all charges accrued thereon: \$21,565.06 located at 81 Schoolhouse Xing, Assessor's Map ID 061/133, described in Wethersfield Land Records at Volume 1739, Page 0293.

Assessed on the Grand List of 2016 to 2020, 13 Wolcott Hill Road in the name of Bradley S. Milvae, to satisfy taxes plus all charges accrued thereon: \$24,008.97 located at 13 Wolcott Hill Road, Assessor's Map ID 164/058, described in Wethersfield Land Records at Volume 0542, Page 0396.

Assessed on the Grand List of 2017 to 2020, 97 Brussels Avenue in the name of Luz Perez, to satisfy taxes plus all charges accrued thereon: \$22,939.09 located at 97 Brussels Avenue, Assessor's Map ID 112/026, described in Wethersfield Land Records at Volume 0812, Page 0043.

Assessed on the Grand List of 2017 to 2020, 12 Briar Lane in the name of Carol R. Speck, to satisfy taxes plus all charges accrued thereon: \$32,651.46 located at 12 Briar Lane, Assessor's Map ID 146/051, described in Wethersfield Land Records at Volume 1960, Page 0047.

Assessed on the Grand List of 2018 to 2020, 42 Saxon Road in the name of Luis Felipe Valencia, to satisfy taxes plus all charges accrued thereon: \$17,642.00 located at 42 Saxon Road, Assessor's Map ID 163/054, described in Wethersfield Land Records at Volume 2024, Page 0134.

Assessed on the Grand List of 2019 to 2020, 610-612 Silas Deane Highway in the name of Zaino Properties, LLC, to satisfy taxes plus all charges accrued thereon: \$35,596.69 located at 610-612 Silas Deane Highway, Assessor's Map ID 223/010, described in Wethersfield Land Records at Volume 1644, Page 0023.

Assessed on the Grand List of 2017 to 2020, So Meadow Road in the name of Joseph Zaleski and Alan Zaleski, Conservator, to satisfy taxes plus all charges accrued thereon: \$427.63 located at So Meadow Road, Assessor's Map ID 304/017, described in Wethersfield Land Records at Volume 1960, Page 0232.

SAID SALE will take place at the WILLIAM J. PITKIN COMMUNITY CENTER, 30 Greenfield Street, Wethersfield, CT 06109, in the Room F3, on Thursday, April 21, 2022, commencing at 10:00 a.m. Pre-registration for such sale shall begin on said date at 9:00 a.m.

None of the properties being sold are guaranteed buildable under current zoning regulations; nor buildings guaranteed habitable. All properties are subject to restrictions, covenants, and appurtenances of record that may appear. The Town of Wethersfield and its officials make no representation, warranties or guarantees concerning the suitability or character of any property offered for Tax Sale. Properties subject to possible additional taxes, interest, fees and other charges authorized by law accruing or becoming payable subsequent to the date of the notice of sale, including jeopard collection of taxes and charges due on the grand list of 2021, as per Conn. Gen. Stat. 12-163. Such will be added to the amounts indicated above as due and owing. Potential bidders are advised of the possible existence of environmental contaminants on the properties. Each tax sale property is sold "as is." Potential bidders assume full and complete responsibility for ascertaining the suitability and character of each property, for any and all costs incurred pursuant thereto, and for all costs and/or liability incurred as a consequence of bidding.

This is a public auction and property will be sold to the highest bidder on each individual property. The minimum bid for each property shall consist of the total of all taxes, interest, lien fees, and accrued charges due as of the date of the sale, except if the total of such amounts due is less than \$5,000 the deposit amount shall be the amount of the minimum bid applicable to that property. All interested bidders must pre-register and provide a \$5,000 deposit in CASH or BANK CERTIFIED CHECK payable to the Town of Wethersfield on the day of the sale, unless the minimum bid for a particular property is less than \$5,000 in which case the deposit shall be in the amount of the minimum bid. The minimum bids will be available in the Tax Collector's Office on or before Wednesday, April 20, 2022. For successful bidders, the balance of the purchase price is due by 4:00 P.M. EDT on Thursday, April 28, 2022, or they shall forfeit the deposit and the right to purchase the property. Bidders must provide a separate deposit for each property on which they intend to bid.

A Tax Collector's Deed in favor of the successful bidder shall be lodged in the office of the Wethersfield Town Clerk and shall remain unrecorded for six (6) months from the date of the sale. If the property is not redeemed during the six (6) month redemption period, then on Monday, October 24, 2022, the Tax Collector's Deed shall be recorded and title to the property shall then pass to the successful bidder. Note that title passes subject to the redemption rights of the IRS if there are any federal tax liens on the property. Additional information concerning this process may be found in section 12-157 of the Connecticut General Statutes. Amounts listed above reflect interest and charges as of December 31, 2021, only. Additional taxes, interest, fees, and other charges authorized by law accruing after the last of the month immediately preceding this notice excluding attorney's fees and title search costs, have been added to the amount indicated as due and owing will become due subsequent to the filing of this notice.

THIS NOTICE HEREBY CONSTITUTES A LEGAL LEVY OF MY TAX COLLECTOR'S WARRANT(S) ON THE ABOVE DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE. Dated at Wethersfield, CT this 27 day of January, 2022.

_____/s/Marlene Desjardins
Marlene Desjardins, Tax Collector
1/30/2022 7137030



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Development Coordinator for Parkville
Neighborhood Projects
Hartford, Connecticut

The Capital Region Development Authority ("CRDA"), a quasi-public agency of the State of Connecticut, is seeking a qualified contractor to serve as a development project coordinator in the Parkville neighborhood. Please see full posting and submission requirements at <https://crdact.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/1-27-2022-DevelopmentCoordinatorParkvilleProjects.pdf> 1/28 - 2/13/2022 7138105

VERNON HOUSING AUTHORITY
Request for Qualifications from Architects/Engineers to Assist the
Housing Authority in Preparation of Plans, Specifications & Contract Documents for
Major Renovations at Grove Court

The Vernon Housing Authority extends an invitation to architects/engineers to submit a statement of their qualifications to the Authority. The architect's/engineer's qualifications should indicate the ability to perform work required in a timely and sufficient manner. The architect/engineer must be licensed to perform services in the State of Connecticut. Firms selected through the RFQ process will be invited to submit fee proposals for the A&E services required for the Major Renovations at Grove Court project.

Grove Court and Grove Court Extension are located at 55 Grove Street, Vernon, CT 06066. The property consists of three (3) one-story buildings, four (4) two-story buildings and one (1) maintenance building for a total of eight (8) buildings and fifty-four (54) units. The scope of work for this Major Renovation project will include, but not necessarily be limited to, ADA upgrades, site work, building envelope upgrades, kitchen and bathroom upgrades, electrical upgrades and plumbing upgrades.

The services being required by the Housing Authority will include but shall not be limited to schematic design, preliminary studies, preparation and design of construction documents, work write-ups, energy modeling, cost estimates, evaluation of construction bids, inspection of materials and workmanship during construction, and post completion documents for the Major Renovations at Grove Court.

The project(s) may be funded by the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority (CHFA) and / or the Connecticut Department of Housing (DOH).

The entire procurement procedure and contract award will be subject to all applicable Federal/State Laws and Regulations. The architect/engineer selected shall comply with the Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action Requirements adopted by the Authority in compliance with said order.

Profiles of the firm's principals, staff and facilities must be submitted along with a list of completed projects, especially those completed with DOH or CHFA funds. The architect/engineer should specify any work performed under DOH or CHFA Funded Programs including but not limited to Competitive Housing Assistance for Multifamily Properties (CHAMP) and/or State Sponsored Housing Portfolio (SSHP). A certified statement that the architect/engineer is not debarred, suspended, or otherwise prohibited from professional practice by any Federal, State or local agency must also be submitted.

In addition, the following insurance will be required and must comply with all DOH & CHFA required limits:

1. Professional Liability including Errors and Omissions,
2. Comprehensive General Liability,
3. Automobile Liability,
4. Valuable Papers Destruction policy,
5. Worker's Compensation and Employer Liability policy.

The Architect/Engineer should have previous experience in providing professional services to public housing authorities and must display evidence of knowledge of DOH, and CHFA regulations. Completed current federal GSA Forms 254 and 255 must be submitted.

Evaluation Criteria:
1. Firm's qualifications - history and resource capability to perform required services in a timely manner (20 Points).
2. Evaluation of staff personnel including subconsultants (20 Points).
3. DOH/CHFA experience, including but not limited to the Competitive Housing Assistance for Multifamily Properties (CHAMP), State Sponsored Housing Portfolio (SSHP) funds, or other relevant DOH/CHFA experience. (25 Points).
4. Experience (15 Points).
5. Cost Competitiveness of Hourly Rates (10 Points)
6. Overall response to RFQ (10 Points).

All interested firms shall submit three (3) copies of the proposal to:

Betsy R. Soto
Executive Director, PHM, V.E.M
Vernon Housing Authority
21 Court Street
Vernon, CT 06066

by 2:00 p.m. on or before February 11, 2022.

All proposals should be sent certified mail, hand delivered or delivered by recognized carrier. All proposals should be clearly identified as "A&E RFQ Response - Major Renovations at Grove Court".

Further information may be obtained by contacting Ms. Betsy R. Soto at (860) 871-0866 ext. 123 or by writing to the Vernon Housing Authority, 21 Court St. Vernon, CT 06066.

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FACT #341
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whipped cream had another brainstorm
in the 1960s: Reddi-Bacon.



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FACT #84
A cardigan worn by a man is sometimes called a mandigan.

FACT #147
When someone uses chitchat, noises, or mannerisms to distract or mislead an opponent during poker or another game, it's called "coffeehousing."

FACT #178
Genuphobia is the fear of knees.

FACT #238
Actress Marilyn Monroe colored her hair using a shade of blond called dirty pillow slip.

FACT #279
Before Sir Thomas More was beheaded in 1535, he moved his lengthy beard aside, saying it "had never committed any treason."

FACT #302
Tweety Bird, the animated Looney Tunes character, was originally pink. But censors complained that Tweety looked naked, so animators gave the bird yellow feathers.

FACT #408
Joe Charbonneau, a Belvedere, Ill., native, who played outfield for the Cleveland Indians in the early '80s, used to open beer bottles with his eye socket and drink beer through a straw in his nose.

FACT #459
When actor Clint Eastwood ran for mayor of Carmel, California, in 1986, a major issue was ice cream. Town leaders had banned the sale of ice cream cones, incensing Eastwood and his supporters. They won and overturned the ordinance.

Hartford Courant

SUNDAY CT

COURANT.COM

Flu is back, but its impact is blunted

Numbers still far below pre-pandemic; experts cite lifestyle changes

By Alex Puttman
Hartford Courant

After recording almost no influenza activity last winter, Connecticut has seen a return of the flu in recent months, albeit in lower quantities than the state typically experienced before the COVID-19 pandemic.

As of Jan. 8, the most recent

date for which data is available, Connecticut had seen 76 hospitalizations and three deaths related to the flu this winter, up from 14 hospitalizations and one death during last year's entire flu season. Though dwarfed by COVID-19, the flu is circulating once again, experts said.

"The overwhelming infection that we're still seeing is COVID, but we're definitely seeing flu this year," Dr. Jeannie Kenkare, chief medical officer at PhysicianOne Urgent Care, said Monday. "Last year we saw almost nothing, and this year we're seeing quite a bit

more flu."

That doesn't mean, however, that Connecticut has experienced the "twindemic" of COVID-19 and flu that some officials warned about last fall.

As of now, the state's flu numbers this winter don't come close to figures reported in pre-pandemic flu seasons. In 2018-19, for example, Connecticut recorded 3,506 flu-related hospitalizations and 88 deaths, according to the Department of Public Health, after 3,895 flu hospitalizations and 184 deaths the year before.

"We've certainly had more

[flu] compared to last year, but compared to a typical year it is still much, much, much lower," Dr. Ulysses Wu, chief epidemiologist at Hartford HealthCare, said.

Connecticut's trends have followed those recorded nationally. A typical flu season, according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates, results in anywhere from 20,000 to 50,000 deaths in the U.S. After about 700 deaths last winter, the country has recorded between 1,100 and 3,200 so far this flu season, per the CDC.

Experts say the fluctuation in flu transmission appears to be tied

to human behavior. Last winter, when masks were required indoors across Connecticut and many businesses were forced to reduce capacity, the flu barely spread at all. This winter, with those restrictions gone but many residents still taking precautions, it has returned in small quantities.

Dr. Scott Roberts, associate medical director for infection prevention at Yale New Haven Hospital, noted that Connecticut had been on track for something like a typical flu season until

Turn to Flu, Page 2

CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT



Speaker of the House Matt Ritter, pictured, said the governor's State of the State address will be delivered to a joint session of the legislature in the House chamber on opening day, but the House gallery, normally open to the public, will be closed. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

Restrictions to continue for legislature, Capitol

Virtual hearings and meetings, limited access planned for at least first month

By Mark Pazniokas
CT Mirror

The Connecticut General Assembly will continue its stringent COVID-19 restrictions for at least the first month of the 2022 session, conducting only virtual meetings and hearings and limiting access to the state Capitol.

The question of public access when the session opens Feb. 9, a sensitive and increasingly politically polarizing subject in recent weeks, was resolved with a joint announcement by leaders of the Democratic majorities.

Gov. Ned Lamont will be invited to deliver his State of the State

address to a joint session of the legislature in the House chamber on opening day, but the House gallery, normally open to the public, will be closed, said House Speaker Matt Ritter, D-Hartford.

Anticipating the decision, Senate Republicans were critical, noting that the XL Center on the other side of downtown Hartford is open for business, albeit with a requirement that patrons show proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a negative test.

"If we can say as a state that we want to fill the XL Center to root our Huskies on, well, I think we can also let the people in their Capitol," Senate Minority Leader

Kevin Kelly, R-Stratford, said Wednesday.

On Friday, Kelly said he would be comfortable with the same rules as the XL. Opening the Capitol with a requirement for vaccination or testing would improve public access, he said.

"I'm not saying just throw the building open," he said.

"How are we so much more special that we have to be so safe, where our kids are in school every day?" said Sen. Heather Somers, R-Groton. "There's no reason for us to not be in person."

Ritter and others said access to the seat of government, as well as the operations of a legislature, are

not analogous to sports venues. Admitting only those with proof of vaccination or testing will generate another set of issues, Ritter said.

"You could argue this stuff in a law school class all day, but it's a little more complicated than the XL Center," Ritter said.

Ritter and House Majority Leader Jason Rojas, D-East Hartford, said in interviews that their goal is to transition to in-person committee meetings in March, when the committees do the more substantive work of sending bills to the House and Senate for floor

Turn to Capitol, Page 2

Court tosses 60-year sentence

Man who judge called 'superpredator' will be resentenced

By Kelan Lyons
Ctmirror.org

The state Supreme Court threw out a man's 60-year prison sentence handed down in 1997 because the sentencing judge said he was a "charter member" of the "superpredator" group, a debunked theory from the 1990s that warned thousands of young Black men with no regard for human life would soon prowl the streets committing violent crimes.

Keith Belcher, now 43, will be resentenced by a lower court for crimes he committed when he was a child.

"In summary, by invoking the superpredator theory to sentence the young, Black male defendant in the present case, the sentencing court, perhaps even without realizing it, relied on materially false, racial stereotypes that perpetuate systemic inequities — demanding harsher sentences — that date back to the founding of our nation," Justice Raheem L. Mullins wrote in the 18-page opinion released on Jan. 21.

"Although we do not mean to suggest that the sentencing judge intended to perpetuate a race based stereotype, we cannot overlook the fact that the superpredator myth is precisely the type of materially false information that courts should not rely on in making sentencing decisions."

Belcher was 14 years old on Christmas Eve, 1993, when he pulled a gun on an elderly woman unloading groceries from her car outside her apartment in Bridgeport and told her to give him her purse. When she told him it was upstairs, he led her at gunpoint to her apartment, where he sexually assaulted her twice and pistol-whipped her.

Belcher's case was transferred to adult court. Jurors found him guilty of kidnapping, sexual assault, robbery and burglary in a trial that concluded in Octo-

Turn to Sentence, Page 2

Pet owners, shelters cope with shortage of cat food

Online prices soaring as supermarkets run out of stock quickly

By Jesse Leavenworth
Hartford Courant

A coast-to-coast cat food shortage is stressing pet owners and shelter managers in Connecticut.

Julie Ann Diorio of Berlin described her frustrations buying food for her four cats — Smokey, Hunter, Jerry and Monkey. Online prices are skyrocketing and while supermarkets stock up at the beginning of the week, Diorio said, "if you don't get there right away, people hoard them, so you lose out and by the end of the



Kia, a guest at Connecticut Humane Society's Westport facility, didn't want to eat when she first arrived. The organization typically has a surplus of food, but not in the past year. MARIA LOVELLO/COURTESY

Turn to Cat food, Page 2

Officer charged with strangulation

New Haven cop placed on administrative leave for alleged off-duty acts

Staff report

A New Haven police officer who was charged with assault and other offenses has been placed on administrative leave, police said.

Officer Ruben Parra is charged on a warrant with assault and strangulation, both in the third degree, and second-degree unlawful restraint, police said.

Officer Scott Shumway said the Internal Affairs Division was alerted Tuesday to actions that Parra allegedly committed while off duty.

The alleged actions took place in the town of North Branford,

Shumway said.

Shumway said the North Branford Police Department presented the information to the state's attorney's office, and it was determined that probable cause existed to obtain an arrest warrant. Shumway did not provide further details from the warrant.

Parra turned himself in to the North Branford Police Department on Friday, Shumway said. New Haven interim Police Chief Renee Dominguez placed Parra on administrative leave.

Parra has been a New Haven officer since November 2014 and is assigned to the patrol division, Shumway said. The New Haven Police Department Internal Affairs Division is doing an administrative investigation, he said.

SUNDAY CT

Capitol

from Page 1

votes.

House Minority Leader Vincent J. Candelora, R-North Branford, who has been sharply critical of the limited public access to the legislature, did not object to the prospect of virtual hearings for a limited time.

“I think there’s a practical aspect to this,” Candelora said. “Our goal is to have committee meetings in person. I understand right now, given the pandemic and the spikes, public hearings with 400 people in the building are very difficult to have.”

Connecticut is on the downhill side of a spike in cases that pushed hospitalizations above 1,900 patients and the testing positivity rate to more than 24%. Hospitalizations were at 1,192 on Friday, nearly 600 fewer than a week ago. The daily COVID-19 test positivity rate was 9.73% for the second consecutive day.

One challenge for the legislature is that some hearings and meetings draw people in numbers that could be safely accommodated, while others attract hundreds or more.

“We don’t know what crazy bills committee members are going to raise, the committees are going to raise, particularly the Democrats,” Candelora said. “They could raise a concept that’s going to fill the building.”

A proposal to end religious exemptions to the vaccinations required for children to attend school drew about 2,000 people to a virtual public hearing that lasted 24 hours, long enough for 236 people to testify.

Written testimony also can be submitted.

Democrats said the virtual hearings can provide greater access: Rather than travel to Hartford and wait for hours for the chance to deliver the standard 3 minutes of testimony, they can talk to lawmakers from their offices or homes.

What is lost, said Kelly, is the physical presence of people who might not want to testify but stand with those who do.

“And in a virtual world, there is no place for that,” he said.

Candelora said the virtual hearings make sense now.

“But I think that we need to try to get in person as soon as practicable,” he said. “I don’t believe that we

are better off in the virtual world.”

Candelora said his larger concern was that remote legislative work would become ingrained. The quality of legislation adopted last year suffered from the limits on face-to-face talks among lawmakers, as well as with lobbyists and the public.

“There just wasn’t the robust negotiating and dialogue that you have with in-person presence,” Candelora said. “And my concern is that we have legislators that are getting used to working out of their living room, and this push is not because of the COVID but because of the convenience.”

Last year, the legislature allowed remote voting in committee. Floor votes in the House and Senate had to be conducted in the chambers or from lawmakers’ offices in the Capitol or adjacent Legislative Office Building.

Ritter said he agreed with Candelora’s assessment of what was lost last year.

“We’re making rules for the month of February,” he said.

While he was optimistic about in-person committee meetings, he doubted the rules would change for public hearings.

“I would be surprised if we change the public hearings,” Ritter said, noting virtual hearings provided the public a voice. “I do believe strongly that it provides in many ways greater access.”

Senate President Pro Tem Martin M. Looney, D-New Haven, made a similar argument in a prepared statement.

“The General Assembly’s pandemic response has resulted in more ease of access over the past two years,” Looney said. “As elected representatives of the people, we are always sensitive to the need for transparency and accessibility.”

Whether that accessibility will extend to the third floor of the Capitol, where the Senate meets, was unclear. Only the first floor of the Capitol is open to the public, and there is no consensus among House and Senate leaders on when that restriction will end.

Lamont has no control over public access to the Capitol — or his ability to address the lawmakers.

“I’m just a guest,” Lamont said. “They have to invite me [to speak], but hopefully they invite me.”

Ritter said they will.

Sentence

from Page 1

ber 1996. After the foreman read the verdict, Belcher punched the judicial marshal standing beside him in the mouth, pushed the other marshal into the wall and charged the jury. Marshals tackled him before he reached the jury box.

Three months later, on Jan. 24, 1997, Superior Court Judge Michael Hartmere sentenced Belcher to 60 years in prison. He told those in the courtroom that Belcher’s actions were “just so inhumane as to be considered subhuman.” The pre-sentence investigation showed that Belcher had average intelligence, the judge said — Belcher could have chosen another lifestyle, but he simply chose not to.

Hartmere then referenced Princeton Professor John DiIulio Jr. and his “superpredator” term, which Hartmere defined as “a group of radically impulsive, brutally remorseless youngsters who assault, rape, rob and burglarize.”

Hartmere called Belcher a “charter member” of the superpredator group.

“You have no fears, from your conduct, of the pains of imprisonment; nor do you suffer from the pangs of conscience,” Hartmere said. “I agree with the [prosecutor], the probation officer, and the victim, who, incidentally, still suffers physically and psychologically from your conduct, who all ask for substantial incarceration to ensure the safety of the community.”

Belcher appealed his sentence in 2017. Judge Robert J. Devlin Jr., now the state’s first inspector general charged with investigating police officers’ use of deadly force, denied Belcher’s appeal. Belcher had claimed the sentencing court’s remarks showed that it relied on materially false information; Devlin ruled that the superpredator theory was not “information.”

Instead, Devlin found that the term “superpredator” is descriptive rather than factual, and that even though the theory has been deemed false, at the time of sentencing, the court had a reasonable basis on which to rely on the theory. Devlin’s opinion states that the “superpredator reference was just a gloss. This court has no doubt that, had Professor DiIulio repudiated his theory before sentencing, [the sentencing court] would have imposed the same sentence.”

Mullins delved into the short history of the term “superpredator” in his opinion. DiIulio coined the word in the mid-1990s, warning that “the demographic bulge of the next [10] years will unleash an army of young male predatory street criminals who will make even the leaders of the Bloods and Crips ... look tame by comparison.” He envisioned elementary school students “who pack guns instead of lunches,” predicting a crime wave committed by young people unafraid of the law, who are “perfectly capable of committing the most heinous acts of physical violence for the most trivial

reason.”

DiIulio’s theory was built on the demonization of Black male teens, Mullins wrote in his opinion. The Princeton professor predicted that the number of “young Black criminals” is “likely to surge” in the coming years, and those who don’t live in Black, inner-city neighborhoods should fear “spill-over” of the moral impoverishment of “crime-prone young males.”

The myth fed racial stereotypes dating back to the founding of the country, specifically the dehumanization of Black children, Mullins wrote, portraying Black youths as vicious animals preying on the innocent. The theory was reinforced by the media coverage of the time, Mullins said, amplifying fears inspired by the racial stereotypes and perpetuating systemic racial inequities that have pervaded the criminal justice system for years.

Reeling from the media frenzy, nearly every state in the country increased its sentencing and punishment of juveniles, and Black children bore the brunt of those changes.

DiIulio’s theory was “baseless,” in Mullins’ words. Juvenile crime was already declining by the time he came up with the term in the mid-’90s; by the year 2000, the U.S. Department of Justice would publish a bulletin finding that crime rates among minors were falling from their peak in the late 1980s and early ’90s. A year later, the U.S. Office of the Surgeon General said there was no evidence to support DiIulio’s claim.

Hartmere’s reliance on the superpredator myth undermined the integrity of the sentencing procedure for two reasons, Mullins wrote.

“First, reliance on that myth invoked racial stereotypes, thus calling into question whether the defendant would have received as lengthy a sentence were he not Black,” wrote Mullins.

And second, using the superpredator theory in a sentencing decision treats characteristics of youth — impulsivity, sensitivity to peer pressure and poor judgment — as a reason to sentence a young person to a longer prison term, instead of considering those characteristics a mitigating circumstance.

“We conclude that the superpredator theory was baseless when it originally was espoused and has since been thoroughly debunked and universally rejected as a myth, and it therefore constituted false and unreliable information that a sentencing court ought not consider in crafting a sentence for a juvenile offender,” Mullins wrote.

Belcher has been in Department of Correction custody since 1995.

The Supreme Court’s decision is the latest example of state officials reconsidering lengthy sentences handed down in decades past to people who committed crimes when they were young. Over the past month, the Board of Pardons and Paroles has commuted the sentences of 11 men who committed murder, felony murder or attempted murder before they were 25.



A customer browses largely empty shelves for cat food at Pet Club in November in Emeryville, California. Supply chain issues have prevented stores from keeping products stocked nationwide. **NOAH BERGER/AP**

Cat food

from Page 1

week shelves are empty and all that are left are flavors and brands which suck.”

Diorio said she’s heard various explanations for the shortage, which is not affecting dog food as much as feline cuisine.

“Who knows?” she said. “But yes, very, very frustrating, and I hope and pray things get back to normal soon. Animals are our family, and to do this to cat owners is just a terrible, terrible thing.”

Coronavirus pandemic-related supply chain bottlenecks, along with worker and ingredient shortfalls, are driving

shortages, according to the Pet Food Institute, a trade advocacy group based in Washington, D.C. U.S. pet food makers face “unprecedented transportation and infrastructure challenges,” institute President and CEO Dana Brooks said.

At the beginning of the pandemic, production of human food was widely disrupted, which affected the availability and costs of plant- and animal-based ingredients used in pet food, Brooks said in a prepared statement earlier this month.

Also affecting the pet food marketplace, he said, is increased competition for oils and fats caused by federal and state mandates and incentives promoting renewable fuels.

“PFI and its members support efforts to fight climate change,” Brooks said, “but current policies create a government-driven market advantage to the energy sector and a disadvantage to companies purchasing ingredients for pet food.”

Published reports on the cat food shortage also mention a shortfall in aluminum for cans.

Connecticut shelter managers say they, too, are struggling. Many shelters rely on donations.

“Our donations are down because people can’t find anything on the shelves,” Caroline Abate, director of Whiskers Pet Rescue in Southbury, said.

The Connecticut Humane Society typically

has a surplus of cat food to share with municipal animal control facilities and shelters, but not in the past year, spokeswoman Susan Wollschlager said.

Shelter managers note that some cats are fussy, and owners who cannot find the brands their cats like are having a particularly hard time. Also, food for cats with special diets is pricier and harder to find, Wollschlager said.

Some people have taken to making their own cat food. For more information, visit petmd.com/cat/nutrition/homemade-cat-food-better.

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com.

Flu

from Page 1

COVID-19 cases began to spike in December due to the omicron variant and residents stepped up their safety measures.

“In what we would expect right now to be the peak of flu season, we’re going down sharply,” Roberts said. “We were really on track to be a pretty severe flu season as recently as one month ago, and then when Connecticut locked down for omicron, that’s when we started to see these rates plummet, and now we’re one-tenth of what we were in 2019 for this week.”

Lifestyle

Roberts said he expects flu cases to increase again



Masks and social distancing during the pandemic have reduced the spread of the flu, but as protections are relaxed, influenza vaccination is important to keep the flu in check. **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

once the current COVID-19 surge passes and precautions ease. It’s possible, he said, that flu could spike in February and March.

Some experts say the near disappearance of flu during last winter and

parts of this winter has changed how they view virus prevention more broadly. In the future, they say, they may suggest that those particularly vulnerable to the flu — such as older people and those with severe underlying conditions — to wear masks in high-risk settings during the winter.

“The data is undeniable that masking, among other interventions we’ve done such as social distancing and avoiding indoor gatherings, has been remarkably effective at reducing not just COVID but all respiratory viruses,” Roberts said. “I’ve learned a lot about how these measures have been at reducing respiratory infection, and I think some of this should be continued post-pandemic.”

Others aren’t sure much

will change at all.

Kenkare emphasized the importance of flu vaccination and said she hopes uptake will improve in future years but said otherwise she expects flu will return to its typical levels once the COVID-19 pandemic ends and residents return to their previous lifestyles.

“Unfortunately, I think people’s behaviors are going to revert back to previous behaviors,” Kenkare said. “In a year, two years for now, I think people will be back to where we used to be, and hopefully we can actually get back to those types of things, but what comes with that is the normal course of infection.”

Alex Putterman can be reached at aputterman@courant.com.

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STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST															Sunday, January 30, 2022														
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Alphabet Inc C	GOOG	1809.00	—◆— 3037.00	2665.79	63.95	2.5	▼	▼	-7.9	41.1	■■■	25.7	26	...	Lincoln Natl Corp	LNC	44.59	—◆— 77.57	68.57	0.73	1.1	▲	▼	0.5	49.7	■■■	1.8	20	2.6
Alphabet Inc A	GOOGL	1797.28	—◆— 3019.33	2667.02	59.99	2.3	▼	▼	-7.9	41.9	■■■	25.0	80	...	MGM Resorts Intl	MGM	27.81	—◆— 51.17	41.63	0.67	1.6	▼	▼	-7.2	43.3	■■■	7.2	...	...
Amazon.com Inc	AMZN	2707.04	—◆— 3773.08	2879.56	26.70	0.9	▼	▼	-13.6	-13.6	■■■	27.3	55	...	Meta Platforms Inc	FB	253.50	—◆— 384.33	301.71	-1.46	-0.5	▼	▼	-10.3	8.3	■■■	17.4	22	...
Amphenol Corp	APH	58.58	—◆— 88.45	77.11	0.08	0.1	▼	▲	-11.8	20.8	■■■	18.3	34	1.0	MetLife Inc	MET	47.69	—◆— 69.16	66.06	0.45	0.7	▲	▲	5.7	38.8	■■■	8.4	13	2.9
Apple Inc	AAPL	116.21	—◆— 182.94	170.33	7.92	4.9	▼	▲	-4.1	12.7	■■■	39.8	46	0.5	Micron Tech	MU	65.67	—◆— 98.45	79.27	-2.66	-3.2	▼	▲	-14.9	5.1	■■■	26.9	15	0.5
Avangrid Inc	AGR	44.10	—◆— 55.57	45.93	-0.20	-0.4	▼	▼	-7.9	-9	■■■	7.3	22	3.8	Microsoft Corp	MSFT	224.22	—◆— 349.67	308.26	12.23	4.1	▼	▼	-8.3	29.7	■■■	36.3	34	0.8
Bank of America	BAC	29.57	—◆— 50.08	45.87	0.95	2.1	▲	▼	3.1	55.1	■■■	15.8	14	1.8	Novartis AG	NVS	79.34	—◆— 98.52	85.91	-1.12	-1.3	▼	▲	-1.8	-4.9	■■■	9.5	20	3.5
Barnes Group	B	40.46	—◆— 57.64	45.08	-0.46	-1.0	▼	▲	-3.2	-5.2	■■■	-0.4	26	1.4	Nvidia Corporation	NVDA	115.67	—◆— 346.47	228.40	-5.34	-2.3	▼	▼	-22.3	70.0	■■■	51.1	82	...
Booking Holdings	BKNG	1860.73	—◆— 2687.29	2412.94	67.08	2.9	▲	▼	0.6	25.1	■■■	8.0	>99	...	Otis Worldwide Corp	OTIS	61.28	—◆— 92.84	82.77	-0.34	-0.4	▼	▲	-4.9	34.2	■■■	0.0	30	1.2
Brist Myr Sqb	BMY	53.22	—◆— 69.75	64.91	1.37	2.2	▲	▲	4.1	6.2	■■■	8.7	...	3.3	Peoples Utd Fncl	PBCT	13.36	—◆— 21.60	19.66	1.13	6.1	▲	▲	10.3	41.6	■■■	3.7	28	3.7
CVS Health Corp	CVS	68.02	—◆— 107.61	109.27	7.71	7.6	▲	▲	5.9	50.3	■■■	8.5	19	2.0	Pfizer Inc	PFE	33.36	—◆— 61.71	54.33	1.94	3.7	▼	▲	-8.0	52.7	■■■	15.4	23	2.9
Carrier Global Corp	CARR	34.21	—◆— 58.89	46.45	-1.35	-2.8	▼	▼	-14.4	28.6	■■■	0.0	...	1.0	Pitney Bowes	PBI	5.56	—◆— 15.50	5.86	0.08	1.4	▼	▼	-11.6	-44.5	■■■	-13.0	...	3.4
Charter Communic	CHTR	549.59	—◆— 825.62	590.47	20.78	3.6	▼	▼	-9.4	-8.9	■■■	11.6	27	...	Prudential Fncl	PRU	77.27	—◆— 117.96	110.19	0.18	0.2	▲	▲	1.8	45.4	■■■	4.1	6	4.2
Cigna Corp	CI	191.74	—◆— 272.81	233.45	-2.80	-1.2	▲	▲	1.7	8.9	■■■	9.6	10	1.7	Pub Svc Ent Gp	PEG	53.77	—◆— 67.62	66.03	0.59	0.9	▼	▲	-1.0	19.7	■■■	11.7	23	3.1
CocaCola Co	KO	48.11	—◆— 61.45	60.84	0.39	0.6	▲	▲	2.8	26.4	■■■	10.3	33	2.8	Raytheon Technolog	RTX	65.02	—◆— 92.48	90.33	3.12	3.6	▲	▲	5.0	39.4	■■■	8.1	41	2.3
Comcast Corp A	CMCSA	45.47	—◆— 61.80	49.72	-0.01	0.0	▼	▼	-1.2	1.2	■■■	6.6	24	2.0	Rogers Corp	ROG	155.42	—◆— 274.17	272.97	0.21	0.1	—	▲	0.0	68.7	■■■	27.7	63	...
Disney	DIS	129.26	—◆— 203.02	138.63	1.25	0.9	▼	▼	-10.5	-16.9	■■■	5.2	...	...	SS&C Technologies	SSNC	62.51	—◆— 84.85	77.93	-1.59	-2.0	▼	▼	-4.9	21.4	■■■	19.5	51	0.8
DuPont de Nemours	DD	66.37	—◆— 86.28	76.07	-1.40	-1.8	▼	▲	-5.8	-3	■■■	0.8	8	1.6	Sirius XM Hldgs Inc	SIRI	5.75	—◆— 8.14	6.19	0.18	3.0	▼	▲	-2.5	-9.8	■■■	6.1 >99	1.4	
EMCOR Group Inc	EME	87.36	—◆— 135.98	117.88	0.90	0.8	▼	▼	-7.5	31.3	■■■	10.7	20	0.3	Snap Inc A	SNAP	28.02	—◆— 83.34	30.42	-1.70	-5.3	▼	▼	-35.3	-42.2	■■■	0.0	...	...
Energy Transfer L.P.	ET	6.24	—◆— 11.55	9.50	0.33	3.6	▲	▲	15.4	57.8	■■■	-4.3	7	6.4	Stanley Black & Deck	SWK	169.43	—◆— 225.00	171.93	-3.68	-2.1	▼	▼	-8.8	.8	■■■	8.2	15	1.8
Ethan Allen	ETD	22.02	—◆— 32.15	24.29	-0.08	-0.3	▼	▲	-7.6	7.4	■■■	1.1	21	4.8	Taiwan Semicon	TSM	107.58	—◆— 145.00	117.61	-6.92	-5.6	▼	▲	-2.2	-2.9	■■■	31.8	29	1.3
Eversource Energy	ES	76.64	—◆— 92.66	87.21	0.10	0.1	▼	▲	-4.1	-4	■■■	12.1	25	2.8	Terex Corp	TEX	34.13	—◆— 55.60	41.16	-0.62	-1.5	▼	▼	-6.3	20.0	■■■	5.5	21	1.2
Exxon Mobil Corp	XOM	44.29	—◆— 76.01	75.28	3.11	4.3	▲	▲	23.0	73.3	■■■	1.4	...	4.7	Tesla Inc	TSLA	539.49	—◆— 1243.49	846.35	-97.55	-10.3	▼	▼	-19.9	-4.1	■■■	75.0 >99	...	...
Ford Motor	F	10.36	—◆— 25.87	19.54	-1.01	-4.9	▼	▲	-5.9	82.1	■■■	11.6	23	2.0	Travelers Cos	TRV	135.87	—◆— 171.46	166.82	4.21	2.6	▲	▲	6.6	21.3	■■■	9.0	12	2.1
Freeport McMoRan	FCX	24.71	—◆— 46.20	36.04	-4.95	-12.1	▼	▼	-13.6	45.3	■■■	18.3	14	0.8	Uber Technologies	UBER	33.51	—◆— 64.05	35.21	-0.73	-2.0	▼	▼	-16.0	-29.1	■■■	0.0	...	...
FuelCell Energy	FCEL	3.44	—◆— 29.44	3.68	-0.22	-5.6	▼	▼	-29.2	-83.5	■■■	-28.2	...	...	Unitedhealth Group	UNH	320.35	—◆— 509.23	466.06	4.89	1.1	▼	▲	-7.2	40.3	■■■	24.2	29	1.2
Gen Dynamics	GD	146.53	—◆— 214.70	212.82	6.28	3.0	▲	▲	2.1	39.8	■■■	4.4	19	2.2	Virtus Invest	VRTS	200.94	—◆— 338.80	247.84	-12.17	-4.7	▼	▼	-16.6	23.0	■■■	18.7	17	2.4
Gen Electric	GE	85.12	—◆— 116.17	92.10	-4.20	-4.4	▼	▼	-2.5	-9	■■■	-15.3	...	0.3	Voya Financial	VOYA	54.46	—◆— 74.97	67.37	-2.37	-3.4	▲	▼	1.6	25.6	■■■	11.5	...	1.2
Hartford Fn Sv	HIG	47.47	—◆— 78.17	71.20	1.88	2.7	▲	▼	3.1	48.5	■■■	9.2	12	2.2	Webster Financial	WBS	45.60	—◆— 65.00	58.80	-1.32	-2.2	▲	▲	5.3	26.1	■■■	4.0	15	2.7
Honeywell Intl	HON	194.55	—◆— 236.86	201.99	-3.11	-1.5	▼	▼	-3.1	2.5	■■■	13.9	29	1.9	White Mtns Insur	WTM	978.51	—◆— 1267.52	1024.32	1.64	0.2	▲	▼	1.0	-1.1	■■■	2.7 >99	0.1	
Horizon Tech Fin	HRZN	12.23	—◆— 19.08	14.46	0.05	0.3	▼	▼	-9.2	14.5	■■■	12.9	10	8.3	World Wrestling Ent	WWE	45.87	—◆— 70.72	48.70	-0.95	-1.9	▼	▼	-1.3	-14.2	■■■	21.3	31	1.0
Infosys Ltd	INFY	16.88	—◆— 26.39	22.66	-0.75	-3.2	▼	▲	-10.5	27.2	■■■	27.5	35	...	XPO Logistics Inc	XPO	62.46	—◆— 90.78	64.01	-2.61	-3.9	▼	▼	-17.3	-5.1	■■■	18.4	16	...
Inovio Pharmaceut	INO	3.46	—◆— 19.00	3.88	-0.04	-1.0	▼	▼	-22.2	-70.2	■■■	-10.2	...	...	Xerox Holdings Corp	XRX	17.59	—◆— 26.96	20.52	-1.17	-5.4	▼	▲	-9.4	2.7	■■■	-2.0	14	4.9
Intel Corp	INTC	47.78	—◆— 68.49	47.73	-4.31	-8.3	▼	▼	-7.3	-7.7	■■■	7.4	9	2.9	Yamana Gold Inc	AUY	3.70	—◆— 5.44	4.03	-0.18	-4.3	▼	▲	-4.5	-8.3	■■■	6.2	24	3.0

Notes on data: Total returns, shown for periods 1-year or greater, include dividend income and change in market price. Three-year and five-year returns annualized. Three year return shown for stocks trading less than five years (indicated by "a"). Ellipses indicate data not available. Price-earnings ratio unavailable for closed-end funds and companies with net losses over prior four quarters. Rank classifies a stock's performance relative to all U.S.-listed shares, from top 20 percent (■■■■) to bottom 20 percent (■■■■).

INTEREST RATES				
Money market mutual funds		YIELD	MIN INVEST	PHONE
Taxable—national avg		0.01		
Fidelity Inv Money Market/Insttit		0.06	\$10 mil.	(800) 544-6666
Tax-exempt—national avg		0.01		
JPMorgan Tax Free MMF/Insttit		0.02	\$10 mil.	(800) 766-7722
CONSUMER RATES				
	NAT'L AVG	WK AGO		NAT'L AVG WK AGO
48 month new car loan	3.53	3.51	Money market account	0.07 0.07
60 month new car loan	3.64	3.61	1 year CD	0.30 0.28
\$30K Home equity loan	6.48	6.48	3 year CD	0.36 0.34
30 year fixed mortgage	3.74	3.68	5 year CD	0.45 0.42
15 year fixed mortgage	3.17	3.01	Savings interest	0.23 0.23
TREASURYS				
	FRIDAY YIELD	1WK	CHANGE 1MO 3MO	1YR 52-WEEK HIGH LOW
3-month T-Bill	0.19	0.02	▲ ▲	0.12 0.20 0.01
6-month T-Bill	0.44	0.09	▲ ▲	0.36 0.44 0.02
52-week T-Bill	0.75	0.20	▲ ▲	0.67 0.75 0.04
2-year T-Note	1.15	0.14	▲ ▲	1.03 1.18 0.09
5-year T-Note	1.61	0.07	▲ ▲	1.19 1.66 0.41
7-year T-Note	1.74	0.04	▲ ▲	0.99 1.82 0.72
10-year T-Note	1.77	0.03	▲ ▲	0.74 1.87 0.99
30-year T-Bond	2.08	0.02	▲ ▲	0.26 2.48 1.67

Money fund data provided by iMoneyNet Inc.

DOW 30							
	TICKER	FRIDAY CLOSE	\$CHG 1WK	PCT CHANGE			
				1WK	1MO	1YR	
1.	Chevron Corp	CVX	130.61	3.70	2.9	11.3	<div><div></div></div> 54.4
2.	Amer Express	AXP	177.06	18.32	11.5	8.2	<div><div></div></div> 52.4
3.	Unitedhealth Group	UNH	466.06	4.89	1.1	-7.2	<div><div></div></div> 35.2
4.	Home Depot	HD	366.54	17.44	5.0	-11.7	<div><div></div></div> 28.8
5.	Microsoft Corp	MSFT	308.26	12.23	4.1	-8.3	<div><div></div></div> 28.7
6.	Cisco Syst	CSCO	55.61	-1.07	-1.9	-12.2	<div><div></div></div> 25.5
7.	CocaCola Co	KO	60.84	0.39	0.6	2.8	<div><div></div></div> 24.3
8.	Goldman Sachs Grp	GS	347.01	3.10	0.9	-9.3	<div><div></div></div> 23.9
9.	Procter & Gamble	PG	160.50	-2.12	-1.3	-1.9	<div><div></div></div> 21.4
10.	IBM	IBM	134.50	5.15	4.0	0.6	<div><div></div></div> 20.4
11.	Travelers Cos	TRV	166.82	4.21	2.6	6.6	<div><div></div></div> 19.2
12.	McDonalds Corp	MCD	256.09	1.50	0.6	-4.5	<div><div></div></div> 18.4
13.	Caterpillar Inc	CAT	201.16	-12.93	-6.0	-2.7	<div><div></div></div> 16.8
Dow Jones industrial average		34725.47	+460.10	+1.3	-4.4	+15.8	<div><div></div></div>
14.	JPMorgan Chase	JPM	146.61	1.53	1.1	-7.4	<div><div></div></div> 15.3
15.	Apple Inc	AAPL	170.33	7.92	4.9	-4.1	<div><div></div></div> 12.2
16.	Dow Inc	DOW	60.04	3.32	5.9	5.9	<div><div></div></div> 7.7
17.	Nike Inc B	NKE	145.91	2.96	2.1	-12.5	<div><div></div></div> 7.4
18.	Merck & Co	MRK	80.90	0.92	1.2	5.6	<div><div></div></div> 6.9
19.	Walgreen Boots Alll	WBA	50.46	-2.04	-3.9	-3.3	<div><div></div></div> 5.0
20.	Visa Inc	V	228.00	22.07	10.7	5.2	<div><div></div></div> 2.6
21.	Honeywell Intl	HON	201.99	-3.11	-1.5	-3.1	<div><div></div></div> 1.7
22.	Johnson & Johnson	JNJ	171.79	6.92	4.2	0.4	<div><div></div></div> 1.2
23.	3M Company	MMM	163.10	-9.55	-5.5	-8.2	<div><div></div></div> -0.4
24.	Intel Corp	INTC	47.73	-4.31	-8.3	-7.3	<div><div></div></div> -3.9
25.	Boeing Co	BA	190.57	-14.87	-7.2	-5.3	<div><div></div></div> -3.9
26.	Verizon Comm	VZ	52.90	-0.26	-0.5	1.8	<div><div></div></div> -5.3
27.	WalMart Strs	WMT	137.52	-2.67	-1.9	-5.0	<div><div></div></div> -6.5
28.	Salesforce.com Inc	CRM	222.13	3.50	1.6	-12.6	<div><div></div></div> -6.7
29.	Amgen	AMGN	229.14	1.42	0.6	1.9	<div><div></div></div> -11.2
30.	Disney	DIG	138.63	1.25	0.9	-10.5	<div><div></div></div> -21.2

SUCCESS

Your guide to managing money, work and the business of life

Kiplinger | FAST COMPANY | Inc.

Tax season is now open



Jill Schlesinger
Jill on Money

As we start the third tax season of the COVID-19 era, take a deep breath. It's going to be another confusing year, as Americans try to reconcile special stimulus measures on their tax forms, and others scramble to recoup missing funds from the past two years. Here's a handy Q&A that addresses the biggest issues this year.

Q: When are taxes due?

A: Unlike the past two years, where the IRS delayed tax filing due to the pandemic, we are back to April — with a caveat. Instead of the customary April 15, the tax filing deadline is April 18 because of Emancipation Day in the District of Columbia. April 18 is also the deadline to file for an extension, which gives you until Oct. 17.

Q: What's the deal with the Child Tax Credit (CTC)?

A: Pay attention on this one. When Congress passed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) in 2021, it created an Enhanced Child Tax Credit. Under the old system, families who met certain income thresholds nabbed the credit when they filed taxes. The amount was increased through ARP and the payment plan was changed. Eligible Americans received half of the increased amount in six monthly payments. To get the other half, you must claim it on your 2021 tax returns.

If you received the CTC last year, you should have received (or will soon receive) a letter from the IRS that details the amount of CTC payments sent to you in 2021 and provides specific instructions about how to claim the rest of the money. You can also check the amount of the payments you received by using the CTC Update Portal on IRS.gov.

If you did not receive CTC payments but believe that you are entitled to them based on your 2021 income and the size of your family, you can claim the full credit on

your tax return. The payments taper down the higher your income, but you would be eligible for the full credit if you earned less than \$150,000 married and filing jointly or \$75,000 as a single filer. Some families that don't normally need to file a return may have to do so to claim the CTC.

Q: What if I never got my refund or stimulus check from last year?

A: Most of the delays have been due to IRS staffing issues. According to the 2021 Taxpayer Advocate Report, since fiscal year 2010, the agency's workforce has shrunk by 17% while its workload — as measured by the number of individual returns — has increased by 19%.

If a return requires human eyes from IRS personnel (i.e., paper returns, correcting errors), you will encounter significant delays. As of late December, the IRS had backlogs of 6 million unprocessed original individual returns and 2.3 million unprocessed amended individual returns.

Q: How can I avoid those awful delays?

A: File electronically, use direct deposit and make sure child credit and stimulus amounts match IRS notices. Most taxpayers should receive refunds within 21 days of

when they file electronically if they choose direct deposit and there are no issues with their tax return.

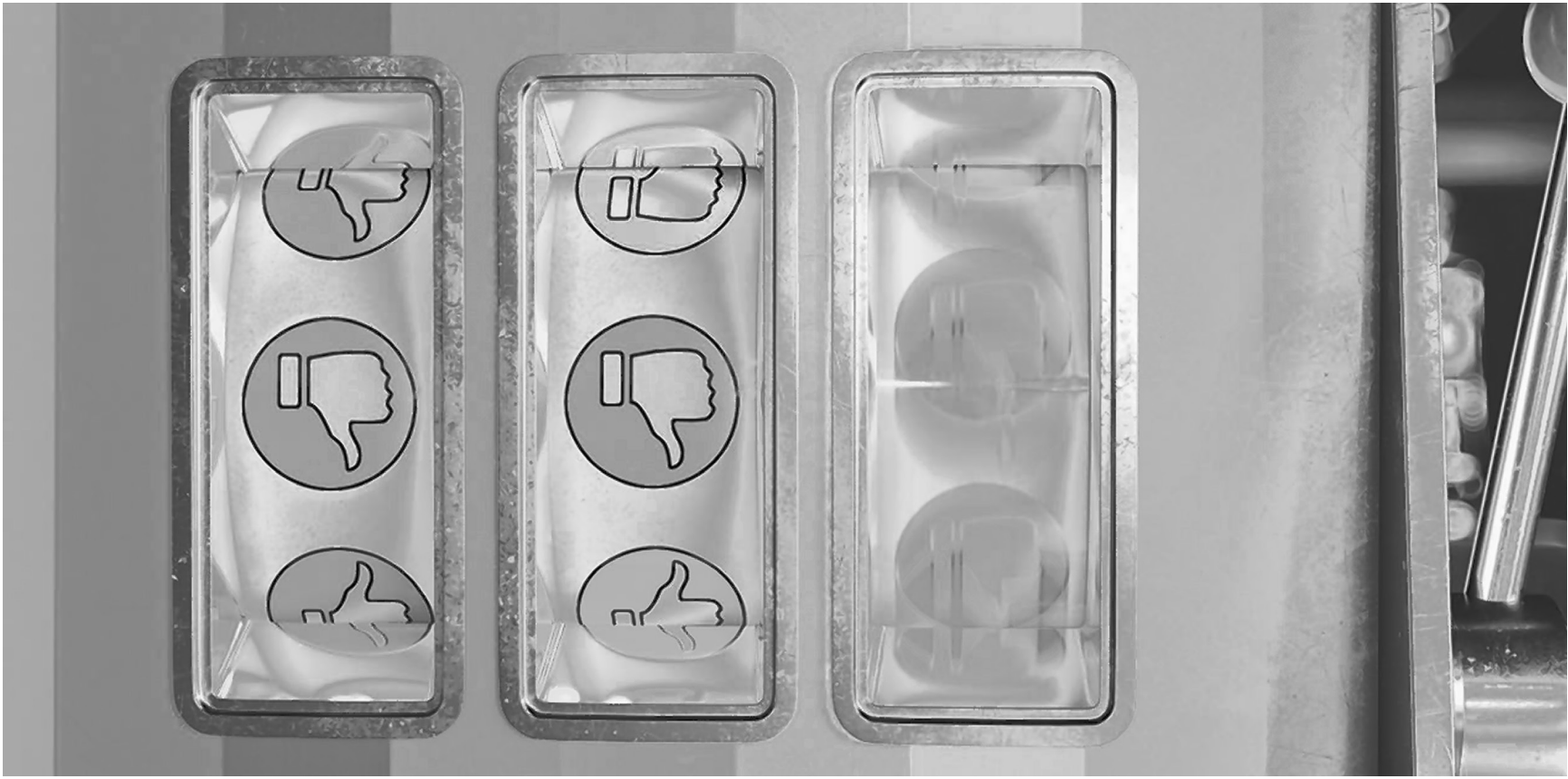
Q: Are stimulus checks taxable?

A: Stimulus checks are not taxable. If you did not receive the payment or think you were shortchanged, you should file for the Recovery Rebate Credit. The IRS is sending separate letters to help determine if people are eligible to claim missing stimulus payments.

Q: Are unemployment benefits taxable?

A: Congress hasn't passed a law offering tax breaks on 2021 unemployment benefits, as they did for 2020. So, if you didn't withhold taxes from unemployment, you may owe money or get a smaller refund. Form 1099-G highlights the amount of unemployment that you received. Additionally, you may also be on the hook for state taxes on your unemployment benefits.

Jill Schlesinger, CFP, is a CBS News business analyst. A former options trader and CIO of an investment advisory firm, she welcomes comments and questions at askjill@jillonmoney.com. Check her website at www.jillonmoney.com.



FAST COMPANY

HIT THE JOB JACKPOT

Looking for work? Here's how to stay motivated in the face of rejection

By Jared Lindzon | Fast Company

It's been a banner year for job seekers, but not everyone is finding success during the Great Resignation. While the unemployment rate is at its lowest point since the pandemic began, more than 2 million Americans have been out of work for more than 27 weeks, and about 5.5 million have been looking for more than 15 weeks, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

With so much activity in the employment market — and with their newsfeeds likely overflowing with new job announcements and promotion celebrations — those who are struggling to land their dream job might be feeling a little discouraged right now.

Despite these challenges, experts believe the new year is an ideal time to get back out there with renewed enthusiasm and confidence.

Emily Liou, a certified career happiness coach, says that for job seekers who "have been feeling discouraged because they've been applying and not getting results, it really is a great time to hit a mental reset and start the job search anew. You will eventually land your dream job, unless you stop trying."

Here are ways to continue putting your best foot forward in the face of rejection in the job market:

1. Manage your mindset

Those who have spent a long time applying without much success often become their own biggest obstacle. We often can't help but carry with us feelings of rejection from previous experiences. "It's a cycle. The less confident you feel, the more self-doubt kicks in, the more challenging it becomes to put your best foot forward," Liou says, noting that it's important not to take rejection personally, as there are many reasons why a candidate might be overlooked.

2. Put together a 'brag list'

Liou encourages those who are feeling discouraged to come up with a list of accomplishments. She calls it a "brag list." "In this society we're very achievement-focused, and often you'll set a goal, meet the goal and then move on to the next goal," she says. "It's a mile marker that we're constantly moving, and we forget to reflect on all of the things we've already achieved."

Liou adds that the process of putting the list together will not only help candidates feel more confident but also help them recall accomplishments that they can include in applications or job interviews in the future.

3. Don't throw spaghetti at the wall

Those who have been out of the work-

force for a prolonged period may feel tempted to respond to a large quantity of postings in hopes that they get a response.

But this tactic, which Liou describes as "throwing spaghetti against the wall to see what sticks," can ultimately serve to further discourage applicants because they either don't hear back, or they do hear back but the opportunity isn't a good fit.

She suggests asking yourself several important questions to determine what you're looking for: "What organizations would I love to join? What impact do I want to make in that organization? How do I align my transferable skills to that role? How do I package myself as that candidate they must interview?"

Liou adds that job seekers also tend to put too much emphasis on submitting applications and not enough time considering other ways to get noticed.

"What I teach my clients is to apply online but also find a decision maker at the company, whether it's a recruiter or a hiring manager, and reach out and introduce yourself," she says, emphasizing that networking is also key.

4. Take baby steps

Job seekers who struggle to land a position often feel helplessly stuck in neutral, but there's a lot they can do to drive their job search forward.

Rather than focusing on the ultimate

goal of landing a job, it's important to establish a series of smaller and more manageable goals along the way, says Octavia Goredema, a career coach and author of "Prep, Push, Pivot: Essential Career Strategies for Underrepresented Women."

"Focus on one next step you can take," she says. "Is it reaching out to the recruiter to check in politely? Is it getting some feedback on the latest revisions I made to my résumé? Is it reading a book that might be able to help me? Is it listening to a podcast of someone I admire in my field that might give me more motivation?"

5. Reevaluate your strategy

According to Marc Cenedella, founder and CEO of Ladders, those who are struggling for a prolonged period in a hot hiring market are most likely making one of three common mistakes.

"It's probably your résumé, your interview style or how you talk about your past boss," he says. "The great thing is, all of those are super fixable."

Cenedella advises those who are struggling to get hired to reevaluate their résumé and application materials, and ask for assistance from friends and family.

He also recommends trying a few practice interviews with those who can provide honest feedback. Most important, he recommends against talking negatively about a prior employer.



I asked what kind of family Amina wanted. She said, 'A family like yours.' That's when I knew I had to adopt her.

Denise, adopted 17-year-old Amina



LEARN ABOUT ADOPTING A TEEN YOU CAN'T IMAGINE THE REWARD

ADOPTUSKIDS.ORG

SUCCESS

NEW RULES FOR DEBT COLLECTORS



Elliot Raphaelson
The Savings Game

As of Nov. 30, there are new rules for debt collectors as established by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). It's important that you understand the new regulations if you are contacted by a debt collector, so you know your rights.

The new rules clarify how debt collectors can communicate with you, what information they are required to provide, your rights in collection, and how you can execute those rights.

Under the new rules, debt collectors can now contact you by email, text messages and social media, in addition to the previous methods of phone calls and postal mail. Debt collectors must identify themselves. Any messages they send must be private.

In other words, they cannot report your debt on Facebook or Twitter. They can, however, attempt to “friend” you on social media as long as they identify themselves as debt collectors. They must also let you know that you have the option to indicate that you don't want to communicate in this way.

When debt collectors don't follow applicable regulations, they are subject to enforcement by the Federal Trade Commission, and they also may be subject to state law violations. You may be able to sue debt collectors if they violate regulations as long as you initiate action within specified time limits.

Under the new regulations, debt collectors cannot attempt to contact you more than seven times within a seven-day period regarding a specific debt. That applies if you don't respond to their inquiry. After you do respond, they are not allowed to call you again for seven days. Unfortunately, these restrictions don't apply to text messages, email and other media.

If you are contacted, you should request the name, phone number and physical address of the agency they are working for. You should not provide any personal information until after you



KAWEE SRITAL ON/DREAMSTIME

verify that the agency is legitimate and that the debt information is accurate.

If the debt is recent, don't hesitate to call the original lender to verify that the account should be in collection. If you don't recognize the debt, you should request additional information in writing to verify its accuracy.

Once you determine that the debt is accurate, you have options to negotiate. If the debt has been sent to a collection agency, it is very likely that the debt has been sold at a significant discount.

So, if you are in a position to repay the debt, don't hesitate to negotiate for a significant discount. If you are in a position to pay off the debt in a short time frame, such as 30 or 60 days, you should be able to make arrangements for a significant discount.

You should only make a payment after you receive a written agreement from

the debt collector indicating the terms of your agreement.

For about 20 years, I was a certified mediator in Florida, and I have participated in hundreds of negotiations with debt collection cases in small claims court. Don't hesitate to ask for a significant discount, such as 50%, if you are in a position to repay the debt in a short time frame. Even if you agree to pay off the debt in monthly payments over a short period, such as within 12 months, you should be able to negotiate a discount. Most debt collectors will be anxious to settle if you indicate you are in a position to settle the debt quickly.

If you want to review the new regulations, go to: www.consumerfinance.gov/consumer-tools/debt-collection/.

Elliot Raphaelson welcomes questions and comments at raphelliott@gmail.com.



Terry Savage
The Savage Truth

What to do with ‘chicken money’ amid inflation

It's not fair that savers are losing money by trying to keep their money safe. With inflation running at 7% and the average money market deposit account paying only 0.5%, savers are losing out to inflation in a big way.

At only 3% inflation, the buying power of your money is cut in half in about 25 years!

Rising rates in the trading markets are making headlines — even ahead of the Fed's promise to raise rates several times this coming year. Fears of inflation make bond buyers demand a higher yield to offset the impact of inflation.

But if you're sitting around waiting for savings rates to rise, it's likely to be a longer wait. Banks have little incentive to attract more deposits by raising rates for savers. There is still plenty of money (liquidity) around in the financial marketplace. And the banks like the idea of making mortgage loans at 3.75%, while paying depositors just pennies on the dollar. That leads to bank profits.

So, if you have some “chicken money” (money you can't afford to lose), is this the time to throw caution to the winds and seek higher yields outside insured deposits? As always, the answer depends on your tolerance for risk. Ask yourself whether the pain of losses is worth the slightly higher yields you might get by taking more risk.

But if you're watching pennies, there are ways to earn a bit more or pay a bit less.

Avoiding fees

A new survey by MagnifyMoney.com says that banks collected \$114 billion more in fees than they paid out in interest on checking accounts and money market deposit accounts over the past decade. (That doesn't include interest on CDs.)

But these days bank fees are coming down, under pressure from government regulators and competition from online insured deposit accounts. Capital One and Ally Bank recently said they will eliminate overdraft fees. JPMorgan Chase now gives customers 24 hours to repair overdrafts and avoid fees.

Bank of America announced it would no longer charge for bounced checks and is reducing overdraft fees from \$35 to \$10. (NSF, or non-sufficient funds, overdrafts typically come when automated payments for rent or utilities are taken out before a paycheck is deposited.) B of A said its move would cut its overdraft fee income by 97% from a decade ago.

It's time to check your own account and see what fees you are paying — and how you might switch to save on fees. But beware; there are trade-offs. You need to compare these frequently hidden traps:

- ATM fees. If the bank doesn't have its own ATMs in your area, will they reimburse all fees if you use another bank's ATM?
- Monthly service charges or annual account fees.
- Minimum balance requirements.
- Overdraft or NSF fees.
- Expensive charges for printing paper checks if you still use them.
- Wire transfer fees. Some banks charge fees on incoming wired deposits, even if it is your paycheck.

The best checking account for you will depend on how you use it. At DepositAccounts.com, you can use the free “checking finder” to input your own typical usage data and search results for online banks or banks in your area that could save you money.

Earning more on insured accounts

The other side of the coin is searching for a bank that will let you earn money on your account balances. The website MaxMyInterest.com will automatically search for lower-cost online banks that pay significantly more interest — especially if you typically hold a larger balance. Max gets a tiny fee for directing those deposits, but you still earn much more.

Or search for yourself. It's easy to search online for the highest-paying online savings and checking accounts. Go to MagnifyMoney.com or Bankrate.com for instant results on the highest-paying FDIC accounts.

One warning: Avoid the CD “brokers” advertising much higher rates on your savings. There is always a catch if it sounds too good to be true.

Competition is bringing bank fees down. Eventually, competition will bring higher interest rates to patient depositors. And that's the Savage Truth.

Terry Savage is a registered investment adviser and a bestselling author. She responds to questions on her blog at TerrySavage.com.

RETIREMENT

Don't get hung up on a savings number

By Katherine Reynolds Lewis
Kiplinger's Personal Finance

The internet abounds with retirement calculators that will help estimate the size of the nest egg you'll need so you don't outlive your money.

Although having a retirement savings number is important, it's also a moving target and fixating on one number runs the risk that you won't adjust your savings goals to new circumstances, such as higher health care costs, inflation or the vagaries of the economy. Life isn't stationary and your retirement plan, including any target savings number, shouldn't be either.

Instead of focusing exclusively on the size of your nest egg, create a comprehensive retirement plan that you'll refine over time. It should include your financial goals, a net worth statement, a working budget, debt management strategy, emergency funds and any insurance.

Any retirement plan also should reflect your expected retirement lifestyle, investing horizon, risk tolerance, savings goals and estate planning. You'll want to consider how your retirement savings would hold up under different scenarios — simulating extreme market conditions or unexpected life events — to be sure your bases are covered.

A financial professional can help you do it or use Microsoft's free online Retirement Financial Planner template. Revisit the plan every few years while you're accumulating assets and whenever you have a life change, such as switching jobs, losing a family member or moving.

As retirement nears, the plan should factor in your required minimum distributions to minimize your tax burden. You



DREAMSTIME

want an appropriate mix of taxable and nontaxable investments, such as a Roth IRA combined with a taxable brokerage account, as well as a balance of stocks, bonds, real estate and other assets.

Many retirement spending models use the 4% rule in which retirees withdraw 4% from their retirement portfolio in the first year of retirement. Each year thereafter, they adjust the dollar amount of their withdrawals by the previous year's rate of inflation. The rule is designed to prevent retirees from running out of money during a 30-year retirement.

Your current spending also may be nothing like your retirement expenses because when we have more leisure, we often spend more. “The bigger question you should ask is ‘What type of life am I aiming for?’” says Chris Browning, host of the Popcorn Finance podcast. “Do

you want to live a simpler life and move somewhere cheaper and slower paced than where you're living? Do you want the ability to give money to family and friends?”

That clear vision — backed up with a written budget — can guide you in setting and adjusting savings targets as well as motivate you to build wealth. In retirement, health care costs escalate dramatically. Working households spend about 6% of their annual budget on health expenses, versus 14% for retirees, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation.

“You need to allow for flexibility because your life is going to change over time,” Browning says.

Katherine Reynolds Lewis is a contributing writer at Kiplinger's Retirement Report.

Here's how parenthood changes your brain, making you a better leader

Does becoming a parent make you a better leader? Research suggests that the answer is yes. Both mothers and fathers undergo measurable changes to their brains as they care for a new child. Here's some of what we know so far about how parenthood affects your brain.

New mothers

- The research into pregnancy and motherhood shows that pregnant women and new mothers go through a process of synaptic pruning that's even greater than that which occurs at puberty, when adolescents lose some of their brain's gray matter and streamlines itself for adult life.



- Mothers also see areas of the brain where gray matter increases. That includes the sections devoted to theory of mind—the area of the brain that helps us understand what another person might be thinking. That understanding is needed for empathy, an essential quality for leaders.

New fathers

- Studies show hormonal changes, including a lessening of testosterone and cortisol, or the “stress hormone.” Estradiol (a form of estrogen, which is also present in men) and prolactin increase, making men more nurturing.
- A 2014 study showed that gray matter in parts of new fathers' brains that respond to



- threats and stress were lessened, while parts involved in empathy and attachment saw gray matter increase. These changes were directly related to parenting activities, researchers reported.
- Unlike new mothers, for new fathers these changes do not appear to be permanent, and may begin to fade after the first few months of parenthood.



Perhaps most interesting, new mothers, fathers and babies experience spikes in oxytocin. It's sometimes called “the love hormone,” but it too is associated with understanding and empathy, another way that being a parent can make you a better leader.

OBITUARIES BY TOWN

Avon
Richard W. Hines
Richard W. Perkett, Sr.
Joy Rooy
Frank E. Winslow

Bloomfield
Allan G. Thomas, Sr.

Bristol
Shari J. Pilbro
Loretta M. Teevan
Lynn G. Valley
Craig Yarde

Burlington
Andre' L. Larochelle
Mark D. Yost

Canton
Clara G. Misiorski
Gloria A. Roy
Mark D. Yost

Colchester
Michael E. Gross

East Hartford
Donald G. Bradt
Frank Germano

Ellington
Francis P. Carney
Robert P. Sessions

Enfield
Kenneth J. Camplese
William L. Hitchcock Jr.

Farmington
Lynne Druge
Michael A. Mazzochi
Richard L. Regan Jr.
Joy Rooy

Glastonbury
Richard W. Perkett, Sr.

Granby
Erik J. Bergersen
John R. Fitzgerald
Nancy B. Lyons
Lynn G. Valley

Hartford
Catherine Davis
Bernadette Henderson
Lillie Hendricks
Cheryl A. Hickmon
Nancy Johnson
Andre' L. Larochelle
Nancy B. Lyons
Clark M. Rogers
Margaret A. Ryan
Allan G. Thomas, Sr.
Rexeton D. Wright

Manchester
Dorothy H. Hastings
Thomas O. O'Neill

Meriden
Marsha L. Gilbert
Janice M. Veillette

Middletown
James E. Barone

New Britain
Janice Bittner
Margaret T. Onanian
Leona N. Sandler

Newington
Dianne M. Damm
Marsha L. Gilbert
Leona N. Sandler

Old Saybrook
Visvaldis Avens

Other Towns in CT
Adam R. Anderson
John J. Bowler
Mark J. Falco
Michael E. Gross
John S. Morrill
Thomas O. O'Neill
Kevin O. Sherry

Out of State
Paula A. Cassarino
Evelyn U. Chase
Bernadette Henderson
Norman L. Lasser
Clark M. Rogers
Margaret A. Ryan
Janice M. Veillette
Theodore O. Wohlsen, Jr.

Rocky Hill
Paula A. Cassarino

Simsbury
Wanda B. Hannah
Clara G. Misiorski
Margaret D. Sennott
Frank E. Winslow

South Windsor
Donald G. Bradt
Francis P. Carney
Frank Germano
Pearl H. Roy
Robert P. Sessions
John R. Yellen

Southington
Jennie Telesco

Suffield
Erik J. Bergersen

Tolland
Lynne Druge

Torrington
Shari J. Pilbro

Unionville
Gloria A. Roy
Anne C. Snyder

Vernon
Janice Bittner
Pearl H. Roy
John R. Yellen

West Hartford
James E. Barone
Devida S. Botwick
Nancy C. Grant
Wanda B. Hannah
Richard W. Hines
Margaret D. Sennott
Anne C. Snyder

Wethersfield
Dianne M. Damm
Linda Jean Romano

Windsor
Lillian Harris
Lillie Hendricks
Rachel M. Hood

Windsor Locks
Donald E. Gilbert, Sr.

* Denotes name listing only.
Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES

Bergersen, Erik J



Erik Bergersen, 58, died January 20. He leaves his sons Tyler and Jeremy of Winsted, 4 sisters he grew up with in E. Hartland and their families, a half sister with family in Norway and many nieces, nephews and cousins. A funeral will be held Saturday, February 5 a 11 with visitation before from 10-11 @ The Pentecostals @ 517 Farmington Ave., New Britain.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Sessions, Robert Perkins



Robert (Bob) Perkins Sessions, 82, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Sunday, January 9, 2022. Bob is survived by his loving wife of 33 years, Patricia Sessions, with whom he shared many adventures and travels. Born in Bristol, CT he was the son of the late John and Doris Sessions and was proud of his family's history with the JH Sessions Clock Company. The eldest of three



children, Bob was predeceased by his sister, Marion Sessions, and is survived by his brother, David Sessions, and his wife, Roberta, of Granby, CT. Bob's roots were in CT and, in addition to Bristol, he had resided in Plainville, South Windsor, Ellington and Vernon but had recently relocated to Florida. Bob served in the U.S. Navy and worked for General Motors for just shy of 30 years. His job with GM transferred him and his family to the small town of Norwalk, Ohio for several years where his claim to fame was accidentally setting the backyard grill on fire and, as can happen in a small town, bringing the entire Fire Department to his house to extinguish it. He surprised himself by making it to the age of 80 years and, when he learned the word "octogenarian" he told everyone he was one every chance he got. Bob was a dedicated New York Yankees and New York Giants fan, even when it was embarrassing. He likened his younger self to Ralphie from "A Christmas Story" and his adult self to Clark W. Griswold. Everyone knew what he meant when he would say, "Look kids, a deer!". Bob was a published author and, in his earlier years, a fantastic bowler, despite missing two fingers on his right hand. He loved Goofy, believed anything could be fixed with Duct Tape, and was known to leave a trail of empty peanut butter jars behind him anywhere he went. He was adored by all who truly knew him and will be deeply missed. Bob leaves behind his children: Callie Riotte of Bristol, Deanna Schuetz and her husband, Jason, of Ellington, Ursula Sessions of Florida, Rachel Apperson, and her husband Don, of Plainville, John Sessions of Ellington, and Robert Sessions, Jr., and his wife Tina, of Morris. Bob was predeceased by his beloved stepson, Brian Peake, and leaves behind his stepdaughter, Tracy Peake-Day, and her husband, Richard, of Vernon. He also leaves behind several grandchildren: Emily, Madilyn, Cole, Danielle, Zoe, Noah, Thomas, Micah, and Nyla, one great-grandchild, Rylee, several nephews and nieces, and his dear friend, Garrett Harrington, whom he loved like he was his own son. Family will receive friends and relatives at Samsel & Carmon Funeral Home, 419 Buckland Rd., South Windsor, on Thursday February 3rd from 9am – 11am; followed by a graveside service in Willingbury Honors at Valley Falls Cemetery in Vernon. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the American Diabetes Association or the Alzheimer's Association. For online condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



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OBITUARIES

Grant, Nancy Caplan



Nancy Barbara Caplan Grant (née Rottner) passed away on January 14, 2022 at MorseLife Assisted Living in Palm Beach. She was 91.

Just a few months prior to her death, MorseLife underwent a brief renovation, so Nancy was helped by her favorite aide to prepare for a 4-day respite at The Carlisle Palm Beach. In anticipation of this move—an inconvenience for many in their nineties—Nancy showed the same excitement one would see in a teenager before a party. A woman with a huge sense of fun—who loved meeting new people until the end of her days—even with ailments and pains, Nancy retained the traits of her youth.

The oldest of three children of Maurice and Edith Rottner, Nancy was born and grew up in West Hartford, Connecticut. She had an idyllic childhood. Her family owned a beach house on Long Island Sound in Westbrook, Connecticut close to the home of Katherine Hepburn and Bill Hahn's Resort (now Water's Edge), which featured, for example, performances by a young Barbara Streisand. Nancy loved being surrounded by nature there. The Rottner's lived in the beach house during summers, including the years Nancy was in high school. After graduating Hall High, she attended the University of Wisconsin, and then Vesper George School of Art in Boston.

In 1950, Nancy married David R. Caplan, a union that was to produce two children: Robin Keuneke and Peter S. Caplan—of blessed memory. On moving the family to Atlanta, Nancy and David, both highly creative people inspired by years of antiquing in New England, started two artisan lighting companies: Georgian Art Lighting and some years later, Plantation Lighting. The companies exemplified the finest of hand-crafted brass and copper lighting in the country. Striking Georgian Art lanterns graced the grounds of the Georgia Governor's mansion on West Paces Ferry Road.

After divorcing in 1982, Nancy began a hand-knit sweater business based original designs that included bringing yarns and her innovative patterns to unemployed knitters, who had no transportation and needed work. Helping these women better their lives brought satisfaction to this fiercely independent woman. She was a fireball. Benefitting from her uncommon ability to excel in both art and business, her bold designs made of the finest yarns exemplified quintessential 1980's color block knitwear, which Nancy placed with high-end retailers including Saks Fifth Avenue.

Some years later, in order to be near her aging parents, she moved to Palm Beach and started Fancy Nancy, a successful handbag and leather goods label. Traveling the world in search of suppliers for her boho designs, which to this day can be found as signed collectibles on Ebay, Nancy was comfortable doing business even in China, where her confidence enabled her to negotiate with aggressive success. It was at this time that she met and married Richard S. Grant, a loving relationship that was to span twenty years until his passing in 2011. In retirement, they found joy in each other's company, which included world travel, many friendships, and philanthropy. They loved their new Delray Beach home and were as thrilled as two newlyweds to be moving there. It was to become the scene of many memorable parties.

In the years after Dick died, Nancy continued to knit for her own pleasure—and her daughter's. She had a talent for landscape design and gardening, continuing to develop her property at Seagate Country Club in Delray Beach with the same originality found in her sweaters. Large topiaries of fuchsia bougainvillea punctuated mature tropical palms, creating a sense of glamour that Nancy's personal style demanded. Her aptitude for interior design, too, was apparent. Exemplified in her colorful home, Nancy had the confidence, for example, to combine a large reed basket with an antique server. Showcasing the commonplace with the precious was a sensibility that could not be missed in material selections for her handbags and sweaters. Nancy was an avid reader, appreciating the work of Joyce Carol Oates as much as the classics. And she loved painting, particularly the idiosyncratic work of Frida Khalo. Nancy did not miss a bridge game at her country club, nor an opportunity to support her favorite charity, Jewish Federation. Always an outstanding home cook, Nancy formed part of the motivation for her daughter to write books on natural foods cooking.

In addition to her daughter, Robin, and son-in-law, Thomas, of North Chatham, Massachusetts and Delray Beach, Nancy is survived by the daughters of her sister Judith—of blessed memory and her nieces, Amie Phillips and Karen Ellison, both of Atlanta. Despite the pandemic, Nancy was visited frequently at MorseLife by Robin and Thomas, whose company she enjoyed until the very end.

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Pilbro, Shari J (Silber)



Shari (Silber) Stary Pilbro

It is with a heavy heart that I inform you that Shari (Silber) Stary Pilbro passed away on January 21, 2022. She fought a remarkable battle with Colon Cancer for a year and a half. She was 54 years old, just shy of her 55th birthday.



28th, 1967
Hampshire.
She was a graduate of Rivier College in Nashua.

Shari was employed by BJ's for the past 13 years and truly enjoyed her job!

Shari leaves her devoted husband, Bob Pilbro, her daughter Chloe Rae Stary of Texas as well as her loving mother Dotty (Ander) Silber of Nashua, NH. She was predeceased by her father, Allan Silber of Nashua. Also, her two special brothers, Ken (and his wife Alice) Silber of NH and Andy Silber of Maryland, as well as her two step daughters Katelyn and LeeAnn Pilbro of Connecticut and two step grandsons, Isaiah Perez and Sam Pilbro both of Connecticut. She also leaves her campground friends with whom she had a special bond. Not to forget her special companion, Buford, her French Bull Dog.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to The Autism Society, 6110 Executive Blvd., Suite 305, Rockville, MD 20852, or to the charity of your choice in Shari's name.

Shari also was an advocate of colonoscopies for the early detection of Colon Cancer. She believed that the earlier that Cancer is detected, the better chance it has to be cured.

There will be a Celebration of Life in Willington, CT. at a later date.

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Gross, Michael Edward



Michael Edward Gross, 81, of East Haddam, passed away on Friday, January 21, 2022 at Yale New Haven Hospital. Born May 20, 1940 in Valley Stream, NY, he was the son of the late Edward and Agnes (Wolf) Gross. He was a graduate of Saint Agnes Cathedral High School, Rockville Centre, NY (1958), and Hofsta University Hempstead, NY (1962) After College, Michael served in the US Army. On June 3, 1962, he was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant with the Army Transportation Corps and soon after completed the transportation training which led to being the supply officer for the 524 Light Helicopter Maintenance Company in Hanau, Germany. In August of 1963, he was transferred to be the supply and vehicle maintenance officer at the headquarters of the Seventh Army Transportation Group in Ludwigsburg, Germany. On April 17, 1964, Michael was promoted to 1st Lieutenant to serve as the acting HQ company commanding officer on a periodic basis. He attended the US Army Flight School, Fixed-Wing Class for a short period before his honorable discharge on June 30, 1965. Michael was a strong patriot and proud veteran. He married his beloved wife, Elizabeth Jane Coffey, in 1968. The couple moved to East Haddam, where they made their home. Michael was a member of the East Haddam Republican Town Committee for over 50 years and he served on the East Haddam Board of Assessment Appeals for 30 years. Michael was also a former chair person for the East Haddam Historic District Commission. He retired from Traveler's Insurance in 1992 after a 23 year career as a manager. He then went on to work for himself in a home improvement business, finally retiring completely in the early 2000's. He will be remembered fondly as a hardworking man who was devoted to his family, country, and community. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Elizabeth Gross of East Haddam; son, Matthew Gross and wife, Kanae Haneishi of Valley City, North Dakota; grandchildren, Koji, Niko, and Sora Gross; nieces, Karen Wuebber and Eileen Uberti and nephews, William Brennan and James Brennan; and numerous extended family and friends. A celebration of Michael's life will be held on Friday, June 10, 2022 at 11 AM with a Mass of Christian Burial directly at St. Bridget of Kildare Church, 75 Leesville Rd, Moodus, CT. Burial will be private in the State Veteran's Cemetery in Middletown. The Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester has been entrusted with care of arrangements. For online condolences, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com. Donations in Michael memory may be sent to East Haddam Republican Town Committee, PO Box 317, East Haddam, CT 06423; or VITAS HEALTHCARE, 199 Park Rd Ext., Suite 201, Middlebury, CT 06762; or Yale New Haven Hospital, Office of Development, PO 1849, New Haven, CT 06508.

Aurora McCarthy
Funeral Home, Inc.

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Rooy, Joy



Joy Rooy, age 90, passed away quietly in her sleep on Sunday, January 16, 2022, just 4 days shy of her 91st birthday. Her heart and kidneys could no longer support life. Joy was the daughter of Peter and Stella (Winckiewicz) Urban. Joy was the last living sibling from a family of thirteen children. Joy's childhood was at best precarious. She lost her

mom at age seven. The happiest two and a half years of her youth were spent in an orphanage with her sister Betty, after which they were pushed around from sibling to sibling, until Joy married at 16 years of age. Joy is survived by her two children, Terry and Wayne. Her daughter, Terry DiRusso and her husband Robert. Terry's daughter, Elaine Plante and her husband, DJ Plante, who are the proud parents of Joy's three great-grandchildren, Brady, Addie and Bailey. Her son, Wayne Gillikin and his wife, Enrica, and their children, Nicole Gillikin and Brandon Gillikin. Joy Rooy was born in Milford, lived in Connecticut and Florida, before settling in New Jersey, where she lived for many years in Long Branch, and then Neptune New Jersey. Joy had been married and divorced twice. She raised two college graduates on her own, a fact she was extremely proud of. In New Jersey she worked in an electronic factory doing wiring and soldering. She put herself through night school to become the first woman to graduate from her electronics' school and be certified as an electronic technician in 1964. She worked as a technician, and then went on to become a supervisor in a small company producing radio equipment for military aircraft. The company moved to Connecticut in 1968, and so did Joy. While working in Bloomfield as supervisor, she hired several deaf employees to work on the line. Wanting to know more about how to communicate with her deaf coworkers, Joy took several courses in sign language at ASD (American School for the Deaf) in West Hartford, Connecticut. As luck would have it, ASD needed an electronic teacher for their technical high school. This was a cut in salary, but a wonderful opportunity for Joy. Her granddaughters were around two years old, and she wanted more time with them. Joy started teaching at ASD in 1981. It was one on the greatest adventures of her life, as she not only worked but also lived on the campus at ASD. Her granddaughters, Nicole and Elaine, would go to visit with her on campus during the summer months. Joy retired in 1998, and moved to Florida, where she owned her own mobile home in St. Augustine. Joy was all about family. She returned up north every November and stayed until January, to be with her family for the holidays. She enjoyed her years in St. Augustine with activities, friends, and the freedom of owning her own home and being in charge of her own life. She always treasured her friends there, but in 2019 she realized she no longer had the strength to live on her own. Joy moved to Connecticut, near her daughter Terry and granddaughter Elaine, into Brookdale Farmington, where she made so many new friends and enjoyed an active life of independence in between covid protocols. Joy loved to collect dolls. Her collection is fun and unique. Brookdale Gables in Farmington, Connecticut, has generously offered a display area to exhibit the dolls as a donation from and in tribute to Joy Rooy. She would have loved this idea, knowing her dolls are being enjoyed and displayed so eloquently. There will be a Celebration of Life service for Joy Rooy at Avon Congregational Church, 6 West Main Street, Avon, Connecticut, on Saturday, April 2 at 1:00pm. Joy's ashes will be interred with her mother, Stella, at St. Michael's Cemetery in Stratford, Connecticut. Joy has requested that donations in her name be sent to the American School for the Deaf, 139 North Main Street, West Hartford, Connecticut 06107. Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center of Avon has care of the arrangements. For condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.

CARMON
Community Funeral Homes

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Visit the obituary section on courant.com to share memories of loved ones.

OBITUARIES

Bradt, Donald G



July 14, 1941–January 26, 2022
US Navy Petty Officer and retired employee of Pratt and Whitney. Donald G. Bradt's love of life didn't come to an end with his death. Donald passed away on January 26, 2022 at the age of 80, after a courageous battle with cancer, surrounded by loved ones who will continue to honor his legacy by living their lives to the fullest.



Donald is preceded by his parents George and Elanor Bradt and his brother Thomas Bradt. Donald is survived by his loving wife of 60 years Jacqueline Bradt, his 3 children Eric Bradt and his spouse Tamara, Lori Hill and her spouse David (RIP), Richard Harrison and his spouse Nicki. His Grandchildren Jessica Bradt, Nicholas Bradt, Matthew Monnier, Jacqueline Hill and Ira Zarnofsky.

Donald's final wishes are not to have a funeral or memorial service and requested donations in his honor to be sent to his most respected charity Wounded Warrior Project.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Gilbert, Sr., Donald E.



Donald E. Gilbert, Sr. entered eternal rest on January 26, 2022 at the age of 77, due to complications from the Covid-19 virus. His family rests easy knowing that his soulmate, Sandra Gilbert, also known as "Mammy" (who passed away from Cancer in 2008) was first to meet him with open arms at the pearly gates.

Known to his friends and loved ones as Don, grew up and spent most of his life in Windsor Locks, CT. He was a gifted high school athlete, especially as a basketball player - graduating from Windsor Locks High School in 1962.

Don was also a loyal, longtime employee at Hamilton Standard, working as an Aerospace Mechanic for 30 years and retired in 2007.

Also known as "Pop" or "Papa", Don was truly at his happiest spending time with his three sons, Donnie, Jimmy and Wayne and even more so with his eight grandchildren.

Don was a phenomenal storyteller (not to mention the best holiday scratch off ticket host) and loved to tell tales of how he had met famous sports stars like Pete Rose, Blackjack Mulligan and Bucky Dent. However, the story told most often to family, that always got the most laughs, was the night he took his three boys to a Hartford Whalers game, and was somehow invited to sit in the press box with hockey legend, Gordie Howe. Don was also a big Windsor Locks Baseball fan throughout his adult life. His loyalty and allegiance to the Windsor Locks Raiders High School baseball team (even after his three sons had graduated high school) earned him a seat on the team bus to road games, thanks to coach, Dave Farr and a trip with the team to sunny Southwest Florida for a Boston Red Sox spring training game. Don's passion, loyalty and love for Raiders baseball was ultimately recognized when he was inducted into the Windsor Locks Hall of Fame in 2016 as the "Fan of the Game".

Don leaves behind his mother, Jenny (98 years old) and siblings: Marsha Ledger, Bobby Gilbert, Noel Gilbert and Doug Gilbert (His father Robert, passed away in 2000) and sons Donald E. Gilbert Jr, his wife Christine and their three boys, Jason, Ryan and Brandon; James A. Gilbert, his wife Cynthia and their children, David, Adrian, Kayla and Jimmy as well as Wayne J. Gilbert and his son, Benjamin.

Don was also incredibly blessed to have known his three great grandchildren, Marley Gilbert, David Crichton, Jrand Cash Crichton. Family and friends are invited to gather on Friday, February 4, from 4-6 PM at the Windsor Locks Funeral Home, 441 Spring St. Windsor Locks with a Prayer Service taking place at 6 PM. Burial will be private. For online condolences, please visit www.windsorlocksfuneralhome.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Winslow, Frank E.



Frank E. "Bud" Winslow, 89, of Avon, beloved husband of Nanalee (Weed) Winslow, died Friday, January 21st, 2022 at John Dempsey Hospital in Farmington surrounded by family. He was born June 13th, 1932 in Hartford, son of the late Charles and Mary (Durr) Winslow. Frank grew up in Simsbury, graduating in 1951 from Simsbury High School.



He enlisted in the Navy in 1952, serving as a medic at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Newport, RI where he met and then married the love of his life Nanalee Weed in 1955.

He then served as a medic with the Marines in San Diego, CA. He was discharged honorably in 1956, having earned both the National Defense Service and Good Conduct Medals. With Nanalee, they returned to Ct, living in Hartford, Unionville, and finally settling in Simsbury where they raised their children. Frank worked for SNET for many years before retiring in 1987 as a Central Office Repair Technician, having earned a certificate in Basic Electronics from A.I. Prince Technical School. After retiring, Frank and Nanalee spent 12 years in Winterhaven FL, returning to Ct in 1999.

In addition to his loving wife of 67 years, he is survived by his children, Linda (Winslow) Schmitt and her husband Bill of Simsbury and Robert Winslow and his wife Maryann; grandchildren Jessica Winslow, Daniel Schmitt and Eric Schmitt and Eric's wife Erin and their children Lily Rae and Keira Rose; and many nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his sisters Norma Lee and her husband Don; Abby Wyse and her husband David, and mother-in-law Ragna Kirkeby.

Known as "Papa" to his grandkids and great grandkids, whom he absolutely adored, he always lit up with a huge smile whenever they were around. Family and friends were everything to him. He was a lifelong Yankee fan, enjoyed golf, and was an avid model ship builder. Ever the handyman, Frank remodeled the family home on Bushy Hill Rd. and was always looking for a project to take on. He was tinkering on fix-its to the end. He and Nan especially appreciated the friendship and support of their neighbors from Avon and always looked forward to their weekly gatherings at the Clubhouse. Calling hours concluding with a memorial service will be Saturday, February 5th starting at 12 noon with a memorial at 1:30 pm at the Vincent Funeral Home, 880 Hopmeadow St. Simsbury, CT 06070, followed by a reception of family and friends at the Peachtree Village Clubhouse, in Peachtree Village, Avon CT. 06001, located off of Darling Dr. Hours 2:30 to 4 pm. Burial will be private at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Avon Volunteer Fire Dept, 3920, PO Box 4110, Woburn, MA 01888-4110 or go online to: avonvfd.org Please visit Bud's "Book of Memories" at www.vincentfuneralhome.com for online tributes.

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Fitzgerald, John Russell

John Russell Fitzgerald, born December 14th 1935, son of Edmund and Jeanne Fitzgerald of Troy, New York. The Fitzgerald family was part of the Fitzgerald Brothers Brewing Co. also of Troy, New York. Jack attended the Albany Academy, Phillips Academy, Andover, class of 1954, Georgetown University, class of 1958. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Judith Albrecht Fitzgerald of Troy, New York, his sons John R Fitzgerald, Jr., David A. Fitzgerald (Laura), Luke R. Fitzgerald (Babyrel), and his grandchildren Emily, Bryce and Theodore. Jack retired as the Chairman of Alta Energy Corporation, a publicly traded oil and gas exploration company. Jack over saw the acquisition of Alta by Devon Energy of Oklahoma City. Memorial donations may be offered to McLean Hospice, 75 Great Pond Road, Simsbury, CT 07070 or the Maryknoll Fathers, P.O. Box 302, Maryknoll, NY 10545. A Liturgy of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, February 5th at 11AM at St. Therese Church 120 W. Granby Road, Granby, CT, 06035. Carmon Funeral Home of Granby has care of the arrangements. For condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



CARMON
Community Funeral Homes

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Hines, Richard W



Richard Walton Hines died after a brief illness on Friday January 7th, 2022. He was 86 years old.

Born in Newark NJ on May 27th, 1935, he was the son of Edwyna F. Baldwin Hines and William E. Hines.

He graduated from the New York University College of Engineering in 1956 and then joined Pratt & Whitney

Aircraft where he spent his career developing the technology for future jet engines. He retired in 1999. He was the husband of the late Joan A. White Hines. Richard was predeceased by his sister Jane F. Brown and brother Lawrence E. Hines. He is survived by a son, William C. Hines and his wife Martha Brennan and his daughter Jennifer A. Sullivan and her husband Michael F. Sullivan and four granddaughters: Madeleine and Julia Hines and Nicole and Lauren Sullivan. Richard loved two things besides his family: music, and public service. He spent his youth in Newark in a house filled with relatives and lots of music. His aunt Arline started teaching him to play the piano at the tender age of four, a pursuit and a passion that would last for the entirety of his life. Richard enjoyed classical, opera and jazz music and attended many concerts and performances both close to home in the greater Farmington valley and as far away as the opera halls of Vienna Austria. He also spent many hours happily playing his Steinway grand piano right up until his final illness.

Richard was active in local government in Avon for more than 28 years. He felt that it was the duty of each person to try to make the town a better place for everyone. In 2005 after turning 70, he decided not to run again for Town council after having served for 25 years. At the time he said that he decided it was time to turn over the reins to younger leaders in the town. "Our future depends on our youth," he said, "it is important to bring in young people to gain experience and lead our towns into the future."

His tenure on The Avon Town Council came during a period of unprecedented growth and soaring population. This period saw the construction of the new library and senior center, expansion of Avon High School and the acquisition of Fisher farm for dedicated open spaces. It was his work on behalf of the town to acquire and preserve open spaces that he was most proud. He began his public service as the chairman of the Avon Zoning and Planning Commission in 1970, and also served on the board of selectman and the inland wetlands commission.

A celebration of Life service will be held at St Mathews Lutheran church, 224 Lovely Street, Avon Ct on June 4th, 2022. Reception to follow. In Lieu flowers the family requests donations to any one of his favorite causes: The Hartt School of Music at the University of Hartford in West Hartford, CT, the Avon Public Library and St Matthews Lutheran Church.

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Lasser, Norman L.



Norman L. Lasser, MD, PhD, 88, of North Andover, MA, and formerly of Scotch Plains, NJ, passed away Wednesday, January 19, 2022, at Mass General Hospital, Boston.

He was born in Houston, TX, June 28, 1933, son of the late Jack and Ethel Lasser. After graduating High School in Houston, Dr. Lasser spent a year at the Eastman School

of Music studying violin, earned his BA in English from Rice University, and his MD from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He interned at the former Peter Bent Brigham, now Brigham & Women's Hospital. To pursue his dream of becoming a medical researcher, he earned his PhD in Biochemistry from Harvard University, returning to complete his medical training with a residency at Boston City Hospital. He finished his scientific training with a fellowship in lipidology at Albert Einstein Medical Center in NY.

Dr. Lasser went on to a 40 year career at The University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, where he was a Professor of Medicine and Director of Preventive Cardiology. He was a Principal Investigator for several multi-center NIH-funded studies, including the Multiple Risk Factor Intervention Trial and the Women's Health Initiative. He was extremely supportive, nurturing, and proud of the team he assembled and led. In addition to his research responsibilities he also taught students and treated private patients.

A classical music enthusiast and talented violinist, Norman was a member of the Amateur Chamber Music Society and instilled a love of music in his family. They spent many wonderful evenings together attending concerts, often preceded by a long celebratory meal at one of their many favorite restaurants. Norman was happiest when surrounded by family and friends, creating beautiful memories during annual family vacations on the lake in Maine, and on Long Beach Island and Hilton Head, where gathering for sunsets was a tradition - one which has been passed down through the generations. He will perhaps be remembered most dearly for his innate and infectious sense of humor, which many of his descendants like to think they have inherited.

Norman was the beloved husband of Vera Lasser for 62 years; and the loving and supportive father and grandfather of his son Dr. Jay Lasser and his wife Pam of Avon, CT and their children, Sarah and Hannah; and his daughter Gillian Pearlson and her husband Jon of North Andover and their children, Carly and Jack. He was predeceased by his sister, Rosalie Weinberg, of Dallas, TX.

Due to the pandemic Funeral Services were private with burial in Temple Emanuel Cemetery, Lawrence, MA. Arrangements are by the H.L. Farmer & Sons Funeral Homes, Haverhill & Bradford, MA. Contributions in his memory may be made to your local Heart Association or to a charity of your choice. To share a memory or for more information please visit www.farmerfuneralhomes.com.

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Davis, Catherine



Catherine Davis, 69, a lifelong Hartford resident, gained her heavenly wings on Monday, January 17, 2022. Catherine was born in Hartford, CT on September 25, 1953, to the late Willie Wright, Jr. and Hilda Wright.

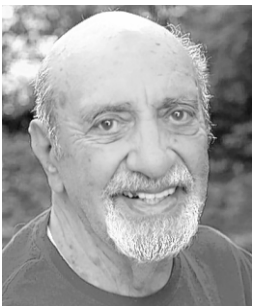
A celebration of life for Catherine will take place on Saturday, February 5, 2022 at 11:00am, with a visitation from 10:00am – 11:00am at Union Baptist Church, 1921 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06120. Interment will be held at Spring Grove Cemetery, 2035 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06120. To leave a message of comfort for the Davis family and view the full obituary, please visit, www.hkhfuneralservices.com



HOWARD K. HILL
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Germano, Frank



Frank Germano, 89, of East Hartford, loving husband of over 59 years of Jeanine (Kelble) Germano, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, January 27, 2022. Frank was born in Vassar Hospital on August 21, 1932, a son of Italian immigrants, Mary Nole and Fortunato Germano. He had fond memories of grammar school in Poughkeepsie, NY and wartime



confidence because the president lived "just down the road".

The entrance exam for Brooklyn Tech High School brought Frank and his hardworking mother to Brooklyn and lifelong friends. Shortly after succeeding in the "best high school" he became the best tank commander on the East Germany border with the U.S. Army "keeping the Russians honest" during the Korean conflict. Uncle Sam helped with expenses at Indiana Institute of Technology, where Frank became an Engineer and met his beloved wife Jeanine. Most of Frank's professional career was at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft in East Hartford. He often would see an airplane and say proudly "I may have touched that engine". Frank's greatest joy was being a father to Frank C. Germano and his wife Ann Marie, Katherine Germano and her husband Bartlomiej Kowalczyk, and Michael Germano and his wife Jennifer. He could scarcely believe he helped make such nice, smart, good-looking, accomplished individuals. They then gave him granddaughters, Isabella DeOrfano, Zabel and Ani Germano, and Francesca Germano who made his heart sing. Even not having relatives in this country, Frank was blessed with Jeanine's in Ohio and Indiana: the Gremaux's, Kelble's, and Knight's; cousins in Italy: the Nole's, Faretta's, and Bindi's will miss him also.

Frank gave more than he took, was modest about his fine qualities, but stubborn about adversity; a good person to emulate. All those who loved him will feel a missing piece of their lives. Funeral service will be Wednesday (February 2, 2022) with a Mass of Christian Burial celebrated at 11 am at Our Lady of Peace Church of St. Edmund Campion Parish, 370 May Road, East Hartford. Burial with military honors will follow at Veteran's Memorial Field – Silver Lane Cemetery, East Hartford. Everyone is asked to please go directly to the church on Wednesday morning. Frank's family will receive relatives and friends on Tuesday (February 1, 2022) from 4:30 – 6 pm at the D'Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel, 30 Carter Street, East Hartford. Facemasks are required at all of the services. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Frank's name may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675. For on-line expressions of sympathy to the family, please visit www.desopoeh.com.



D'Esopo
Funeral Chapel

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Onanian, Margaret T.

Margaret Theresa Onanian, 90, of New Port Richey, FL, passed away on Wednesday, January 26, 2022 in Trinity, FL. She was the widow of Harold N. Onanian who died in 2003.

Born in New York, NY, she was the daughter of the late Yervant and Josephine (Jaeger) Alexanian. Margaret was a former resident of New Britain, New York and North Carolina before moving to Florida twenty two years ago. She was formerly employed at Connecticut National Bank before retiring. Margaret was a member of the Armenian Church of the Holy Resurrection in New Britain.

Surviving are a son, Robert W. Miller and his wife Cynthia; step-children, Charles and Leslie Onanian, Edward and Cheryl Onanian, Claudette Audett and Christine Onanian; eight grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. In addition to her husband and parents, she was predeceased by two daughters, Kathryn T. McGray and Marjorie L. Miller.

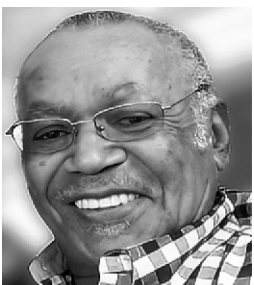
Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at 12:00 PM at the Armenian Church of the Holy Resurrection, 1910 Stanley St., New Britain. Burial will follow at Fairview Cemetery in New Britain. Erickson-Hansen Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Please share a memory of Margaret with the family in the online guest book @ www.ericksonhansen.com

ERICKSON-HANSEN

New Britain

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Wright, Rexeton D.



Rexeton "Rexie" Wright, 84, of Hartford, transitioned peacefully, Sunday, January 23, 2022. Rexie is survived by Joyce Wright, Carmen Wright, and Sarah Jennis Hardwick; his children, Lizzette L. Haughton, Melissa L. Wright and her husband James D. Williams, Jr., and Noel Wright and his significant other Danielle Wright; many grandchildren, great grandchildren; siblings; other relatives and friends.

Rexie was predeceased by his first wife, Margaret L. Wright; his great granddaughter, Nyasia Milner; and siblings, Mary Ann Patricia and Kenneth Leroy. His family will receive friends on Wednesday, February 2, 11 a.m.-12 p.m., with a Celebration of Life at 12 p.m., at Carmon Funeral Home, 807 Bloomfield Ave., Windsor. Burial will follow in Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery. To read the full obituary or attend the service remotely, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



CARMON
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OBITUARIES

Carney, Francis P. "Butch"



Francis P. "Butch" Carney, 97, of Ellington, formerly of South Windsor, beloved husband and best friend for 68 years of the late Dorothy M. (Gregonis) Carney, passed away peacefully on Friday, December 10, 2021.

Due to the incoming snow-storm, services have been changed to a new date and time. A time of visitation for



family and friends will be at the Ladd-Turkington and Carmon Funeral Home, 551 Talcottville Road, Vernon, to celebrate both Francis & Dorothy's life on Saturday, February 5, 2022 from 3-5 pm with a memorial service for both at 5 pm.

Memorial contributions in Butch's name may be made to the Ellington Senior Center, P.O. Box 187, Ellington, CT 06029.

To leave an online condolence, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



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Hitchcock jr., William L.



William L. "Bill" Hitchcock Jr., 86, of Enfield, beloved and devoted husband of Ruth (March) Hitchcock, passed away Monday, January 24, 2022 at Hartford Hospital surrounded by family. He was born in Hartford on March 14 1935, son of the late Jessie (Harper) Hitchcock and (William L. Hitchcock. He began his life service in the military, serving in the U.S.



Coast Guard, Air Force and retiring from the CT Army National Guard. After graduating from the State Police Academy in Vermont and attending the Connecticut State Police training academy, Bill went on to serve as a Police officer of the City of Hartford for 21 years, he continued working for the Ct department of transportation before fully retiring. He also work for the Hartford Electric Light Company early in his career. Bill and Ruth enjoyed taken cruises especially in the month of May to celebrate their anniversary. They were married May 4th and have been married for 64 years. Bill was in DeMolay then became an active member of the 88 Masonic Lodge. He was a member of Somers Congregational Church. He also enjoyed his Harley, cooking for his family, playing the piano and talking to everyone who walked by his house as he sat outside enjoining the weather. In addition to leaving his beloved wife Ruth "Toots" he leaves behind his daughters Elaine and Clayton Berube Of Somers Ct: Laurie and Randall Berube of Ellington Ct: Janice and David Gaskell of Somers Ct: his grandchildren Clayton Berube Jr.; Kristin Berube Capshaw; MSgt Michael Berube his wife Jill; Jeffrey Berube his wife Mallary; Stephen Berube his significant other Yufei Wang; Kara Gaskell; Kyle Gaskell and fiancé Reilly Hickey; his great grand children, Victoria; Liam; Declan; Zachary; Alice and his great-great granddaughter Kingsley, his nephew and niece. He is predeceased by his sister, Margaret Savoins. Bill's family will receive family and friends from 4 to 6 PM on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at Leetes-Stevens Enfield Chapel, 61 South Rd, Enfield Ct. A funeral service will be held at 9:30 on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at the funeral home. Burial with military honors will follow in Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Agawam. Donations in Bill's memory to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital and the Fraternal Order of Police.

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Ryan, Margaret Ann "Peg" (Clark)



Margaret Ann "Peg" Ryan (nee Clark), 90, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on Wednesday, Jan. 26, 2022 at Independence Village, Avon Lake, Ohio. She was born September 10, 1931 in Bristol, CT and had been an Avon Lake resident since 2019 after over 60 years of living in Vermilion, Ohio.

Peg grew up in Bristol and West Hartford, CT. After graduating from the Mount St. Joseph Academy in West Hartford, she attended Dean Junior College in Franklin, MA. After earning a degree in the medical secretarial field, she worked for the Connecticut Department of Health in Hartford, CT as a medical secretary supporting 5 clinics for crippled children. She married Joseph T. Ryan in April 1953 and moved to Vermilion, Ohio to start a family. While raising 6 children, Peg worked as a teller and in the Operations Department of Society Bank in Vermilion. After retiring, Peg volunteered as a library aide at St. Mary Catholic School in Vermilion. She was a member of St. Mary Catholic Parish in Vermilion, Bridge Club, Vermilion College Club and the former 8-Ball Dance Club. Peg was a fabulous gardener, interior decorator, and dedicated her life to her family. Peg is survived by her daughters, Susan (Doug) Brown of Vermilion and Marcella (Bruce) Thompson of Fairport, NY; sons, Steven Ryan of Vermilion, Timothy (Jean) Ryan of Columbus, and Patrick Ryan of Lakewood, 11 grandchildren, and 5 great grandchildren. She is also survived by her sister, Catherine Brewer of West Hartford, CT and her brothers, John (Carole) Clark of West Hartford, CT and Thomas (Margy) Clark of Avon, CT; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph T. Ryan in 2003; her daughter, Jane Ellen Ryan in 2015; 3 granddaughters, Kathleen, Erin and Caeden Ryan; 3 siblings, James Clark, Patricia Robotham and Mary Ellen Clark and her parents, James M. and Bridget A. (nee Reilly) Clark.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Friday, April 8, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Mary Catholic Church, 731 Exchange Street, Vermilion, OH 44089. The family asks that everyone wear a mask for the Mass. The Reverend Paul Schreiner will officiate. Services will be live streamed at <https://stmaryvermilion.org/mass-live-stream>.

The family will have a private inurnment at Maple Grove Cemetery, Vermilion. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions are suggested to St. Mary School Endowment Fund, 731 Exchange Street, Vermilion, OH 44089 or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-9959. Online condolences may be made at www.riddlefuneralhome.com.

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Hastings, Dorothy H.



Dorothy H Hastings, age 103 years young, passed away on January 20, 2022, in Fullerton CA.

Dorothy was the eldest daughter born to the late Helen & Robert Hastings of Holyoke, MA.

Deaf at the age of 3 due to spinal meningitis, she learned to communicate with the hearing world from her schooling at

Clarke School for the Deaf in Northampton, MA. Dorothy was the first deaf employee hired by Aetna in 1943, where she worked as a Key Punch Operator until her Retirement in 1980.

She was a pioneer in the communication field for the deaf. She had one of the first teletype machines used to communicate with the deaf and hearing world. She created a Movie Club held at her house for her deaf friends to view movies with a special machine that interpreted the dialect from the movie onto the screen – what is now closed caption. She was appointed by the late Governor of CT, Ella Grasso, and served as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Mystic Oral School from 1976-79.

Although she never married or had children of her own, she had a huge circle of family and friends that adored her. She was the cool Aunt and her love for life, sense of humor, adventure, amazing creativity for arts & crafts and devotion to her faith, family & friends made her the kind of person we all aspire to become. She leaves behind 26 Nieces & Nephews, 31 Great Nieces & Nephews and 13 Great Great Nieces & Nephews who will never forget their beloved "Auntie Dodo".

She is predeceased by her siblings and in-laws, Kay & Jack Funke, Charles & Susan Hastings and Rudy Pesci. For most of her life she lived in Manchester, CT but she spent her last 7 years in Fullerton, CA with her sister, Helen Pesci. Helen and her children created a wonderful & caring home for Dorothy to live and enjoy her later years of life.

John F Tierney Funeral Home in Manchester CT will be in charge of her arrangements that will include a funeral mass at Assumption Church in Manchester followed by burial at Mount St Benedict in Bloomfield, CT to be held on May 28, 2022.

Memorial donations can be made to either: Mark Seven Deaf Foundation, c/o Kelly Lange, P.O. Box 32080, St. Augustine, FL 32080 or Clarke Schools for Hearing & Speech, 45 Round Hill Rd, Northampton, MA 01060. For online condolences, please visit www.tierneyfuneralhome.com.



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Johnson, Nancy (Clapp)



Nancy Clapp Johnson 'Gigi', 80, of Naples, Maine, formerly Holliston, Massachusetts and Hartford Connecticut, was released from pain and passed away peacefully January 23, 2022 with her daughter NancyLynn by her side. She was married to Richard S. Johnson who passed on their 52nd wedding anniversary in 2014.

Nancy was born May 8, 1941 in Hartford Ct, the daughter of Frank and Ethel Haling Clapp.

Nancy and her husband Richard were the original owners and operators of J & J Commercial Services which they ran successfully in Holliston Massachusetts for 25 years before they retired to Maine.

Nancy is survived by her loving daughter NancyLynn J. Lysik and her husband John of Hollis, New Hampshire and their two children Jacob and Jocelyn. Somewhere in the world, Florida perhaps, is her son Richard F. Johnson and his family.

Per her wishes, she has been cremated and there will be no services

Please visit www.advantageportland.com, to learn the rest of 'Gigi's' amazing story and leave memories for her family.

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ROMANO, Linda Jean



Linda Jean Romano, 72, of Wethersfield, entered into eternal rest on January 27, 2022. Linda was born in Springfield, Vermont on July 1, 1950 and was the daughter of Raymond and the late Bertha Wilson.

Linda left Vermont to attend CCSU and pursue her dream of becoming a math teacher.

While at a party at CCSU a man name "Horace" introduced himself. She would later find out his real name was Orazio and she loved him for all the days of her life. She often spoke, showing that infectious smile of hers, of when she first met Orazio's family. She was so nervous to meet Orazio's father, Big Tom. She was immediately cradled into their love, and immersed in their Italian traditions, so well that she took to all of it as if it was her birthright. They, along with many others will miss her dearly.

Linda will be forever missed by her husband of 50 years, Orazio, her children who were the center of her life, sons, Thomas and wife Sarah, William and wife Lindsay, daughters, Amy and Jessica. She will also be missed by her grandchildren who were her pride and joy, Madelyn Rose, Amelia Joy and William Reid. She also leaves her beloved father, Raymond "Bill" Wilson and wife Cynthia, sisters-in-law, Ann Bascetta (Antonino), Paula Romano (Michael) and Jo-Ann Formica along with several great nieces, great nephew, cousins and friends. In typical Linda style, and simply said, Family and Friends were the center of her universe.

She was predeceased by her mother, Bertha Wilson, father and mother-in-law, Gaetano and Concetta Romano and brother-in-law Richard Formica.

The family will receive relatives and friends on Tuesday, February 1st from 5 to 7 p.m at the D'Esopo Funeral Chapel, 277 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield. At the family's request, masks are mandatory. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, February 2nd at Christ the King Parish/Corpus Christi Church, 601 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield. Attendees are asked to meet directly at church. Interment will follow in Mount St. Benedict Cemetery, (Section Y), 1 Cottage Grove Road, Bloomfield. In lieu of flowers, the family asks memorial donation be made to the Alzheimer's Association Connecticut, 200 Executive Blvd S #4b, Southington, CT 06489. For online expressions of sympathy to the family, please visit www.desopofuneralchapel.com.



D'Esopo
Funeral Chapel

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Falco, Mark J.



Mark J. Falco, 73, of Willimantic, CT passed away on January 25, 2022.

Born on August 27, 1948 in Bridgeport, CT, Mark was the son of the late Louis and Nellie (Makowski) Falco. He grew up in Middletown, CT and graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in 1966.

Mark studied History at the University of Connecticut, where he would meet the love of his life, Marcia. After graduating from UConn in 1970, Mark continued his studies and earned a Master's Degree in Education.

Mark was a beloved teacher in the Windham Public Schools for 41 years, teaching Social Studies to 7th graders at Kramer Middle and Windham Middle School. In addition to learning about historical topics, Mr. Falco's students were encouraged to follow current events by participating in his highly competitive weekly Newsgame. He also coached Kramer Middle School's softball team for over a decade. Mark retired from teaching in 2012.

Mark loved history and art, and his lifelong love of music provided a well-curated soundtrack to every day of his life. Mark's all-time favorite band was the Rolling Stones (who he got to see in Hartford in 2005), but his love of music was never limited by genre or era—whether he was listening to WILI-AM, to classic blues albums, or to contemporary Tuareg music, Mark always had something on the stereo.

Mark is survived by his wife, Marcia (Sobuta) Falco; his favorite daughters, Marissa of Oakland, CA and Mia of Belmont, MA; aunts Rosalie Gifford, Margaret Jacob, and Mary DiMario; uncle Joseph Falco; mother in law Joan Sobuta; sisters in law Carol Flis (Michael) and Denise Pace (Daniel); brother in law Edward Sobuta, Jr. (Elizabeth); his nieces Sara, Amy, and Jennifer and nephews Alex, Jeff, and Greg; and many cousins. Mark did not have any siblings, but he treasured dear friends Dave Magnuson and Evan Phillips, who were family to him. Mark was predeceased by his parents and several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Services will be at the convenience of his family. In lieu of flowers, the Falco family requests that a donation be made to the Windham Region No-Freeze Project or the Covenant Soup Kitchen.

For an online memorial guestbook, please visit www.potterfuneralhome.com

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Gilbert, Marsha L.



Marsha L. Gilbert, 74, loving wife of Thomas "Frenchie" Gilbert, passed away peacefully on Thursday January 27, 2022.

Marsha was born on April 4, 1947, to the late James and Avis Gormley. She was a lifelong Meriden resident. Mrs. Gilbert graduated from Southern Connecticut State College earning a B.S. and

M.S. in Special Education. Marsha brought her passion for Special Education to Berlin Public Schools teaching at a number of different schools there. She was especially proud of training future teachers at Central Connecticut State University and the University of Hartford.

Marsha was an avid bowler. She was the first female Director of the G.C.C. Bowling Association serving for 27 years. Mrs. Gilbert also published a local and State Quarterly Bowling Newsletter and was responsible for starting the first Women's Scratch Sports League in the country. She was also a member of and wrote articles for, the New England Old English Sheepdog Rescue (NEOESR) that went to all its members.

In addition to her husband Frenchie, she is survived by her best friend Denise Troy and her beloved Old English puppies, Kirby, and Stormy. She was predeceased by her brother Brooks Gormley.

Family and friends are invited to attend calling hours from 4 to 7pm on Thursday February 3rd at the John J. Ferry & Sons Funeral Home, 88 East Main St, Meriden, CT 06450. A simple service for Marsha will begin at 6:30pm. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory can be made to the NEOESR at neoesr.org/donate or mailed to NEOESR, c/o Glenn McGeough, 95 Carol St, Danbury, CT 06810. For online condolences, please visit jferryfh.com.

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Teevan, Loretta M. "Rae"



Loretta M. "Rae" Teevan, 87, passed away January 24 following a long illness. She was a life-long resident of Bristol, CT, a well-respected member of the community, and beloved by her former students. Rae graduated from St. Joseph School in 1947 and from Bristol High School in 1951.

She attained her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Latin from St. Joseph College in West Hartford, and returned to Bristol High School, later known as Bristol Central High School, teaching Latin. She later completed her Master's Degree in Latin at Trinity College in Hartford. Rae completed coursework for her certification to teach French and Italian at Central Connecticut State College in New Britain. As a tribute to her dedication and commitment to education and her students, Rae was named Bristol's Teacher of the Year in 1988-89. She retired in 1998 after a career of 43 years, and kept in touch with many of her former students right up to the time of her passing. Throughout her four-plus decades teaching, Rae was a member of the Classical Association of Connecticut, the Classical Association of New England, and the American Classical League. Once retired, she traveled internationally acquiring new friends each trip acquiring new friendships through the years. Rae was honest and forthright, a woman of great faith, and one with a strong connection to her Irish and French-Canadian heritage. Rae was intelligent and quick to respond, standing out in a crowd with her quick wit and wry sayings for every scenario, such as "Everything will be fine if you just put on lipstick," and "With the help of God and three Irish cops..." She will be remembered for being a consummate educator, mentor, and most of all, a great friend. She was predeceased by her parents, William Teevan and Leah Morin Teevan. She is survived by many cousins and their families along with those with whom she had formed a solid bond of friendship. A wake will be held Monday January 31, at O'Brien Funeral Home, 24 Lincoln Ave., Bristol, from 5-7 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Tuesday at 10 a.m. directly at St. Joseph Church, 33 Queen St., Bristol, followed by a procession to St. Thomas Cemetery in Bristol.

To livestream the wake or to leave a condolence, share a memory or a photo, please visit Rae's tribute page at www.O'Brien-FuneralHome.com



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OBITUARIES

Camplese, Kenneth J



Kenneth J. Camplese, 54, of Enfield, beloved son of Romeo and Helen (Shackelford) Camplese passed away on Monday, January 17, 2022. He was born in Everett, Washington on November 15, 1967 and lived in Washington state until he relocated to Connecticut when he was 33. He taught college biology in Washington and Connecticut. His Master's degree was in Marine Biology, but he taught various other biology subjects as well. Ken loved teaching and enjoyed all aspects of biology. Ken was an active member of the Seymour CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) and joined the Enfield CERT when he moved to Enfield in 2019. Since college he actively volunteered for several organizations - Wildlife, Watershed groups, Audubon Society, Oceanic organizations. He especially enjoyed monitoring different species in their natural habitats. Ken loved to travel and was always planning for his "next trip". He went to Alaska and several places within the United States, and went on trips on his own to New Zealand, Iceland, England and Scotland. Ken had many interests including hiking, biking, photography and reading. Ken was a kind and caring individual. He often received cards from his students; and thank you cards and gifts from adjunct professors he had helped. All that Ken accomplished is amazing when you consider at age 8, he had a brain tumor and was given 3 months to live. He defied the doctors with 46 years and the person he became and all he accomplished. His life was not easy. His attained height due to the tumor was 4'10"; and he had numerous medical procedures he had to endure constantly - yet he never complained. Ken always had a positive attitude and went forward with whatever obstacle life handed him. He was strong and resilient. Ken was "one of a kind" in every way. He will be so missed; but "his spirit" will always be with us. In addition to his parents, Kenneth is survived by his sister Karen Migliaro and her husband Ed of Marlborough, and his nieces who he loved so much and was so proud of, Megan and Emily Migliaro. A private family memorial service will be held at a future date. For online condolences, please visit www.leetestevens.com.

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Mazzochi, Michael A.

Michael A. Mazzochi passed away Thursday, January 27th, 2022. For service information and to read his full obituary, please visit www.ahernfuneralhome.com.

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Morrill, John S.



1/08/1942-1/25/2022
On January 25, 2022, John Stewart Morrill of Columbia Ct, lost his 2 year long and courageous battle with Gastric Cancer. He passed peacefully surrounded by his family.
John was born on January 8, 1942 in Providence Rhode Island to Albert and Louise (Faulkingham) Morrill. He grew up in Hampden, Maine. John graduated from Hampden Academy in 1961. He continued his education at the University of Maine, Orono, majoring in Forestry. He transferred to Eastern Ct State College receiving both his BS and MS in Science.
He served in the US Army in the 30th Infantry Division, stationed in Germany during the mid 1960's as an armored personnel carrier driver. Honorably discharged, he then pursued his career in Education.
He taught Science at Lyman Memorial High School and Lebanon Middle school in Lebanon, CT for 33 years. He had a significant impact on many of his students and athletes throughout his career and was respected and loved by all. He retired in 2002.
He was active with Lebanon Education association serving as chairman of the professional rights and responsibilities committee.
John was an avid reader, and enjoyed, gardening, wood-working, and skiing. John loved to travel especially with his Weimaraners. He was a member of the Weimaraner Club of America and the Nutmeg Weimaraner club. He hosted many parties and cooked for many field events. John is survived by his wife of 43 years Dorothy (Blozie), His Brother James Morrill and wife Marilyn of Berlin Ct, His daughter Heidi (Morrill) Bailey, and Husband Scot of Lebanon Ct, His Son Gregory Morrill and his wife Mellissa of Storrs, ct. His grandchildren, Emerson and Fallon Bailey of Lebanon Ct and Spencer and Siarra Morrill of Storrs Ct. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews and beloved cousins as well as friends.
A per Johns wishes, Services will be private. There will be celebration of his life to be held at a later date.
In lieu of flowers Donation are being accepted for the JOHN S MORRILL scholarship fund, P.O. Box 1390, Hebron Ct 06248
To share a memory or express a condolence please visit: www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com

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Yellen, John R. "Papa John"



John "Papa John" R. Yellen, of Vernon, beloved husband of 69 years to the late Jean (MacBeth) Yellen (2017), passed on his 96th Birthday, Tuesday, January 25th 2022. Born in Staten Island, New York, the son to the late Steven and Katherine (Gluhosky) Yellen, he grew up and lived in East Hartford before moving to Vernon where he has lived for over 50 years.
After he graduated from high school, John proudly served his country in the U. S. Army during World War II. He earned his undergraduate degree from Central Connecticut State University, his master's degree From Union College in Schenectady, NY and his sixth-year certificate in education at the University of Hartford. He was an eighth-grade science teacher in Glastonbury for over 30 years before his retirement. John enjoyed making puzzles and filling his garage walls with them. He loved telling jokes and riddles to everyone he met. He was proud of his garden and would always bring flowers to his neighbors. He was a kind, caring and loving husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather and he will be missed. He is survived by his children, Christopher Yellen of New Hampshire, and Mary Deane and her husband Robert of Vernon; eleven grandchildren; fourteen great grandchildren and several extended family members. In addition to his wife and his parents, he was predeceased by his two sons, Peter Yellen (2007) and David Yellen (2017). His family would like to express their sincere thanks to Amberwoods in Farmington for their exceptional care to John. Graveside services will be held on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at 11 a.m. at St. Mary's Cemetery, 930 Burnside Avenue, East Hartford. Ladd-Turkington & Carmon Funeral Home in Vernon is caring for the arrangements. For online condolences and guest book, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



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Druge, Lynne (Henderson)



Lynne Druge (Henderson) born on December 16th, 1961, passed away from a short illness on January 24th, 2022 at Manchester Community Hospital. Lynne was the wife of Robert Druge (deceased) and the daughter of George Henderson (deceased) and Nellie Henderson (deceased). Lynne worked as a Supplier Quality Engineer at GKN Aerospace prior to her retirement in December of this year. Before going to GKN, Lynne worked at Volvo Aero Connecticut and prior to that the Whitcraft Group. Lynne went to Hartford Technical College, Manchester Community College and Marlboro College where she studied music.
Lynne was a longtime member of the Mansfield Christian Fellowship Depot. Lynne was baptized at MCF and served as treasurer, served on the missions committee, and helped lead worship through music. Lynne sang and played the flute sharing her talents with the church community and all who attended the services. Lynne had a was organized, had a phenomenal work ethic, and was committed to helping those in her community whenever there was a need. Above all, she was given the gift of music and that is how she will be remembered most.
Lynne leaves her cousin Terry Nowakowski of Farmington CT, her husband Jay and three children, Joel, Danielle, Luke and their nine grandchildren. In addition, she leaves her brother-in-law, Thomas Druge of Morgantown, West Virginia, Stephen Druge of Vero Beach, Florida and Fiona Druge of NYC, New York. In addition, she leaves her lifelong friend, Sandi Stenberg who she shared many memories at Wells Beach and exploring restaurants and points of interest all around CT. She also leaves behind her beloved church family, as well as close friends Janet, Scott, Craig, Marcia, Dick, and April. She also leaves behind her beloved dog Ryder and three cats who will miss her terribly. Services for Lynne will be held on February 2nd at the Tolland Memorial Funeral Home, 375 Merrow Road, Tolland, CT. A memorial service will be held at 11 AM. Donations can be made to Habitat for Humanity in her name.
For online condolences please visit: www.pietrasfuneralhome.com

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Sennott, Margaret Davis



Mar 13, 1946 – Jan 13, 2022
Margaret Davis Sennott of Simsbury, CT passed on Thursday, January 13 in Hartford, CT. She was born on March 13, 1946, in Pensacola, FL to the late Clyde Adrian Quina Davis and Richard Warfield Davis, Sr. She was raised in Mobile, AL, and later lived in Tolland, CT, West Hartford, CT, and Medfield, MA, before moving to Simsbury in 1993.
She was a beloved, generous, and dedicated wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend. She will be dearly missed by: her husband, Stephen J. Sennott; son Paul (Erin) Sennott of Medford, MA, daughter, Elizabeth (Mateusz Tarczynski) Sennott of Brooklyn, NY; her grandchildren Emerson and Elliott Sennott of Medford, MA, and Marek Tarczynski of Brooklyn, NY; siblings, James (Judy) Davis, of Houston, TX, Fred (Bonnie) Davis of Fort Walton Beach, FL, and Laura (Rob) Ellis of Centreville, VA; nieces and nephews, Patrick, Timothy, and Jeffrey Davis, Lauren Rice, Robert Ellis, Richie Davis, and Dede Marshall; as well as other family members and friends. She was predeceased by her brother, Richard Warfield Davis, Jr.
She graduated from Bishop Toolen High School, after serving as Student Council President and reigning as May Queen. She received her undergraduate degree from Florida State University before earning a master's degree and teaching certificate from the University of North Carolina. In 1973, she married Stephen J. Sennott, whom she met while living in Tolland, CT, in a ceremony held in Mobile, AL. She taught high school English at Tolland High School and then worked as a librarian at West Hartford Public Library before devoting herself full time to the education and care of her children. She had a deep appreciation for literature, the arts, and education, and she instilled the same in her eternally grateful children.
A Funeral Mass will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, February 12th at St. Catherine of Siena, 265 Stratton Brook Road in West Simsbury, CT, with a reception at the church to follow. Facemasks will be required. A burial will be held at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to the International OCD Foundation (www.iocdf.org) or the Children's Literacy Foundation (www.clifonline.org). Please visit Margaret's Book of Memories at www.vincentfuneralhome.com for online tributes.

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Telesco, Jennie (Galettete)



Jennie (Galettete) Telesco, 98, of Southington passed away on Thursday, January 27, 2022 at her home. She was the wife of the late Joseph Louis Telesco.
She was born on September 16, 1923 in Southington and was the daughter of the late George and Josephine (Iacobucci) Galettete.
Jennie was a parishioner of St. Thomas Church and a member of its Rosary Society. She was very active in her younger years in the Maria Della Angeli Women's Society and the Galettete Family Reunion. She was also a volunteer at SARC. Jennie was best known for her cooking and baking skills, which she loved to share with her family and friends. She loved to entertain people in her home and her door was always open to her many family and dear friends. Jennie also loved to feed her bird friends and enjoyed watching them as they ate.
She leaves her daughters Ann Marie Capo and husband Robert of Naples, FL, Jeannette Telesco-East of S. Windsor and son Joseph Telesco of Wallingford; her loving grandson Aaron Lazar and wife Elizabeth, great grandson Nicholas and Andrew Lazar as well as Bob's daughter Sarah (Capo) Wendl and husband Todd and their sons Ethan and Connor and Bob's son Gray Capo. Jennie also leaves her niece Joanne Kelsey and husband Jim and nephew Nicholas Galettete and partner Patricia Cianci as well as her dear friend Josephine Fornier.
In addition to her husband she was predeceased by a brother Nicholas Galettete and his wife Mary, her infant sister Margaret and her son-in-law George East.
The family would like to especially thank Jennie's caregivers Oksana and Svitlana Voronchok, Luda Prozola and Irma Carusone and the Masonic Hospice at Home nurses and caregivers especially Gina Sullo and Cristelle Regis.
A Mass of Christian burial will held on Wednesday, Feb 2nd at St. Aloysius Church, 257 Burrirt St., Plantsville at 11 am. Burial will follow at St. Thomas Cemetery. Due to the pandemic there will be no calling hours and everyone is required to wear a mask at Church.
Donations may be made in her memory to the Masonicare Home and Hospice, PO 70, Wallingford, CT 06492
For online condolences and directions please visit www.dellavecchiasouthington.com

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Harris, Lillian Terry



Lillian (Terry) Harris, 94, of Windsor, beloved wife for 39 years of the late John A. Harris, Jr., passed away peacefully on Monday, January 24, 2022, at Hartford Hospital. Born in Hartford on January 29, 1927, daughter of the late Louis and Ozella (Mack) Terry, she was raised in Hartford and was a graduate of Weaver High School, Class of 1945. After high school, Lillian married in 1947 and moved to Windsor where she and her husband raised their seven children. Lillian was a faithful member of the Full Gospel Interdenominational Church in Manchester since 1973. She loved God with all her heart and loved praising Him. As her grandchildren and great-grandchildren were growing up, Lillian loved to hear them sing. As the matriarch of her family, she always provided home-cooked meals for her entire family and enjoyed vacationing with them to various places during the summer. Most of all, Lillian enjoyed the simple pleasures in life, helping others and spending time with her family. She leaves to mourn her passing, five children, John A. Harris, III and his wife Sallie of Windsor, Cynthia Robin and her husband Arthur of East Hartford, Beverly Chappell and her husband James of Windsor, Cedric Harris and his wife Gloria of East Hartford, and Cassie Harris-Little of East Hartford; 16 grandchildren; and a host of great and great-great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Besides her husband, she was predeceased by a daughter, Priscilla Watkins; a son, Stephen Timothy Harris; a granddaughter, Amanda Harris; five brothers, Melvin, Louis Jr., Walter, Thomas, and Kenneth Terry; and three sisters, Florence Cobb, Betty Trader, and Sandra Terry. Her family will receive friends on Wednesday, February 2, 10-11 a.m., followed by a Homegoing Service at 11 a.m., at The Lodge Community Chapel, 130 Deerfield Rd., Windsor. Burial will follow in Riverside Cemetery, Windsor. Memorial donations may be made to Worldwide Lighthouse Missions, P.O. Box 5010, Manchester, CT 06040-5010. Carmon Windsor Funeral Home has care of the arrangements. For online condolences please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



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Hickmon, Cheryl A.



Cheryl A. Hickmon, 59, of Hartford, passed away Thursday, January 20, 2022, after a brief illness. She was the youngest of three children to the late Dr. Ned Hickmon and the late Consuella Hickmon. She graduated from The Watkinson School and earned a B.S. degree in Professional Biology from South Carolina State University in 1984. Cheryl was a licensed Clinical Laboratory Technologist for more than 30 years. She worked in the Reproductive Medical Laboratory at Montefiore's Institute for Reproductive Medicine and Health. Ms. Hickmon was the newly elected National President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. an international organization of predominately African American college educated women. Among her many awards is the Citizen of the Year Service Award from the Tau Iota Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. located in Hartford. She leaves to cherish her memory two brothers, Ned N. Hickmon and David W. Hickmon of Hartford, CT; cousins Richalee Rice, Pam Rice, and Sharon Rice of Cincinnati, OH; many cousins throughout the United States, co-workers, many friends, Delta sisters internationally, including members of the Hartford Alumnae Chapter. However, they all rejoice in a life well lived. An Omega Omega Service conducted by the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. will be held on Friday, February 4, 11:00 a.m., at The First Cathedral, 1151 Blue Hills Ave., Bloomfield, CT. A Celebration of Life will immediately follow at 12:30 p.m., at The First Cathedral. Attendance will be limited due to COVID-19. Full vaccination status and masks will be required for all attendees. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Cheryl A. Hickmon Scholarship, c/o Delta Research & Education Foundation, 1703 New Hampshire Avenue N.W., Washington, DC 20009 or to Foodshare, 450 Woodland Avenue, Bloomfield, CT 06002-1342 or by visiting, www.foodshare.org. The family has entrusted the Carmon Windsor Funeral Home with the arrangements. For online condolences and to view the service live or after Friday, February 4th at 11 a.m., please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



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Lyons, Nancy B.



Nancy B. Lyons of Granby, CT, passed away on January 21st, 2022 joining her Mom, Dad, her brother Manny and her beloved Gordon Setter, Gordie in Heaven. Born on March 13, 1963, Nancy was raised in Hartford. Sunday dinners and family celebrations at her family's Regent St. home hold many warm memories. Those years were spent living close to future relatives and life-long friends. Nancy met her husband Tim when she was 7, they grew up on the same block. Days were spent playing games of stick ball, listening to the transistor radio, and reading the Hartford Times together on the Regent St. Porch, and movies at Westfarms Mall, including their first date, Jaws. He was her first and only boyfriend, and their bond would lead to a 40 year marriage and 50+ years of friendship. Nancy took business classes at Hartford High, which lead her to become a small business owner along side her husband Tim. Intelligent and detail oriented, she was the key to the success of the business. Nancy's warm smile and genuine spirit forged lasting bonds with customers, associates and staff alike. On a personal level Nancy was fiercely devoted to family. If someone was in need, Nancy was always there to answer the call. She was instrumental in the upbringing of her nephews and nieces, whom she cherished and loved beyond words. In marriage she was blessed with the sunshine of her life Sean and her loveable little Monkey Mikey. Nancy was so proud of her sons and their present (and future) accomplishments and her love will live on through them. Nancy leaves behind her husband Tim, her sons Sean & Michael, her devoted and loving sister and brothers; Diane Stoddard and brother-in-law Jim, her brother Fred Bilodeau and sister-in-law Chris, her brother Robert Bilodeau and sister-in-law Kelly, her in-laws Jack & Elaine Lyons and many nieces, nephews and dear friends. Nancy's family will receive friends on Tuesday February 1st from 3pm to 6pm at Hayes-Huling & Carmon Funeral Home 364 Salmon Brook St., Granby, CT 06035. For condolences or directions please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



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OBITUARIES

Damm, Dianne M.



Dianne M. Damm of Newington passed away on January 13, 2022. She was predeceased by her mother Astrid Bloom Damm, her father Richard Damm, and her sister Evelyn Damm. Dianne grew up in New Britain and graduated from CCSU. Miss Damm taught second grade at Highcrest and Hamner Elementary Schools in Wethersfield until her retirement. Dianne had fond memories of her students. Hearing a first name would frequently remind her of a story about a student with that same name. Dianne was very grateful for the assistance provided by friends Rose Kuhl of Middletown, and Rich and Karen Jahne of Wethersfield. She looked forward to her weekly breakfasts with Rose. Dianne appreciated her neighbor Jemel Aguilar's kindness, birthday lunches at the shore with Charlotte Buchas, Nick Casiooppo's landscaping help, and conversations with Sharon Waters. Dianne shared German/Swedish heritage with the Jahne/Gustafson family, and became part of the family. Erik and Robin Jahne have lifelong memories of Dee, who was a special aunt to them. Her love and care for them grew to include Nick Casiooppo, Robin's husband, and Stacy Vocasek, Erik's partner. Dee was especially happy when she could spend time with Freja Casiooppo as she grew, and Erik's favorite dog, Candy. There are so many memories that we will cherish: holidays (too many presents!); vacations at Black Point, Lake Todd, Disney World (when Rich and Robin tap danced at Epcot); birthdays and cakes baked by Dee; cookouts on the deck and pizza parties. Burial will be private, followed by a celebration of Dianne's life, in the spring. Donations in Dianne's memory may be made to the Connecticut Humane Society, 701 Russell Road, Newington, CT 06111. The Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Newington Memorial has care of the arrangements.



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Misiorski, Clara G.



Clara (Skip) Gertrude Misiorski (Skip) was born February 19, 1935, and passed from this life to the next on January 17, 2022, just shy of her 87th birthday. She was the youngest of 13 children born in Swansea, Massachusetts to Edith and William Peters. She was nicknamed Skipper because she always had to skip to keep up with her older siblings. Her brother was the bestower of nicknames and eventually shortened it to Skip. Skip married Frank Misiorski, whom she met at Joseph Case High School. They were married for 61 years until his passing in 2017. While raising 5 children, she pursued an associate degree in Childhood Development, worked at Waring Products in the accounting department, was a licensed Real Estate agent, and served as an EMT for the New Hartford Volunteer Ambulance Company. Skip was active in her children's activities, becoming a band parent and working multiple musical theater productions. She was an avid fan of UCONN Women's Basketball. Skip was also active in the New Hartford Senior Citizens and helped organize group walking trips. Skip passed peacefully and her wishes to have her body donated to science were granted by the UCONN Medical School. When discussing this desire with her children, she was asked if she didn't think she'd be too old to do that, to which she replied, "they need old people too!" She would be thrilled to know that she is helping to educate future medical students, who one day will care for so many others. Skip is survived by her 5 children: Marcia Misiorski, Cindy (Randy) Cole, Chris (Sue) Misiorski, Mike (Mary) Misiorski and Donna (Bruce) Felix. She is also survived by 9 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. She will be greatly missed. A Celebration of Life will be scheduled at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made via check to the New Hartford Senior Center c/o New Hartford Town Hall, 530 Main St, P.O. Box 316, New Hartford CT 06057. Please sign guestbook at [courant.com/obituaries](https://www.courant.com/obituaries)

Perkett, Richard W., Sr.



Richard W. Perkett, Sr., 78, of South Glastonbury passed away at St. Francis Hospital on Wednesday, January 26, 2022. He was the beloved husband of Mildred (Kinney) Perkett. Born in Hartford, Richard ("Dick") was the son of the late Maxime and Alice (Masse) Perkett. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. Richard has been a long time resident of South Glastonbury, moving from East Glastonbury thirty-five years ago and he is formerly of Avon as well. He worked as a plant manager in commercial printing for many years, retiring in 1991. In addition to his wife, Richard is survived by his daughter Charise Perkett of Attleboro, MA, his son Richard W. Perkett, Jr. and his fiancée Susie Custer of Boston, MA, his grandchildren Richard W. Perkett III, Jackson Perkett and Spencer Glasson, his brother Eugene Perkett of East Hampton, two sisters Irma Dunlevy and Joan Kennedy and several nieces and nephews. Richard was predeceased by his brother Reed Perkett and his sister Rena Allard. Throughout his entire life, Dick simply worked hard and just wanted to spend time with his wife Mildred - whom he loved dearly - his family and his dogs; sharing a great meal, an occasional cocktail and hours of laughter. He asked for nothing more, because he was surrounded by people who loved him and made him happy. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at 10:30 am at St. Isidore and Maria Parish at St. Paul Church, 2577 Main St., Glastonbury. Masks are required. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, 450 Brookline Ave., SW120, Boston, MA 02215. For online condolences, please visit www.mulryanfh.com



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Regan Jr., Richard L



Richard L. Regan Jr. of Farmington went to be with the Lord on Dec 03 2021. Rich was a lifelong resident of Connecticut and was retired. He is survived by his Mother Alyce R. Dorey (91) Brothers James (58) and Todd (57) as well as five nephews. He is predeceased by his Father, Richard. L. Regan Sr. and Sister Durinda Delaportas.

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Roy, Pearl Hope



Pearl Hope (Gray) Roy 98 formerly of South Windsor, CT, widow of Hervey J. Roy, passed away January 22, 2022. Born December 18, 1923 in Boston MA to parents Mable Davis Gray and Arthur Gray, Pearl's pure innocence to life brought both humor and joy to all who knew her. She enjoyed baking, which was almost a daily event. After meals she would have a selection of desserts for the offering. One of her known talents was her embroidery. She always had a project going, so because of this we all have multiple dresser scarves, pillowcases, etc. for years to come. Pearl was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, and sister to those she cherished. Her happiest moments were spent with family. She leaves her children: Russell Donovan of Broad Brook, CT, Dennis and his wife Candace Donovan of Waikoloa, HI, Patricia Pontarelli of Myrtle Beach, SC, Beverly and her husband Paul Guarino of Broad Brook, CT, James Roy of Newington, CT, William Roy and his wife Rosemarie Roy of North Granby CT; 11 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and a sister - Marjorie Bibeau of Homosassa, FL. She was predeceased by her husband Hervey Roy, grandson Shannon Dupont and daughter-in-law Judith Donovan along with her parents and seven siblings. Funeral services and burial at Saint James cemetery in Manchester will be private at the request of her family. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made in Pearl's memory to either the Alzheimer's Foundation of America or the Parkinson's Foundation. Samsel & Carmon Funeral Home in South Windsor has care of arrangements. For online condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



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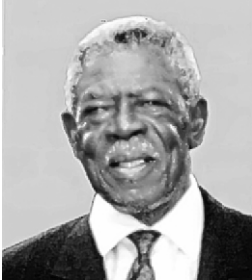
Sandler, Leona Norma (Witkin)



Leona Norma Witkin Sandler born in New Britain, CT September 10, 1927 to Harry and Ida Witkin passed away peacefully with her family by her side at her Newington, CT home January 28, 2022. A graduate of New Britain High School and married to an Air Force husband, Leona spent many years away from her beloved CT. Raising her family while living on the road in Fairbanks, Colorado Springs, Newburgh, Enfield & Niantic and finally in Newington. Leona was a very strong individual, enduring years of raising her family while her husband was away serving his country. She is survived by a sister Marna Kaye and predeceased by her husband Harold, sister Rita Bernstein, brother Joseph Witkin and granddaughter Jessie Elizabeth Sandler. Leona is survived by seven children, Ross and (Pat) Sandler, Marc and (Donna) Sandler, Keith and (Patricia) Sandler, Robin and (Lisa) Sandler, Joy and (Philip) Allen, Bonnie and (Ed) Wojtowicz and Wendy Sanstrom; 16 grandchildren, 20 great and her always faithful companion, her dog Chase. Leona was a very special person one with a never-ending reserve of giving: to her children, grandchildren and she loved her cats and dogs. Family gatherings were always centered around her fabulous cooking and sense of humor. The family will receive visitors February 1, 2022 at 10 AM with a service beginning at 11 AM at Weinstein Mortuary, 640 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford. Internment immediately following the service at Beth Alom Cemetery. Leona will be laid to rest aside Harold her husband of 70 years. In lieu of flowers donations in Leona's name are welcomed to Paws4Life Animal Rescue at www.paws4lifect.com.

Please sign guestbook at [courant.com/obituaries](https://www.courant.com/obituaries)

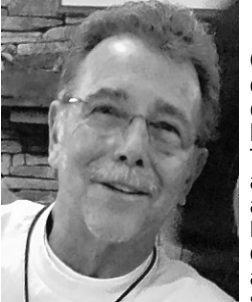
Thomas, Sr., Allan G.



Allan G. Thomas, Sr., 95, of Hartford, CT departed this life on Tuesday, January 18, 2022. Allan was born on June 3, 1926 to the late Solomon Thomas and Catherine Thomas in Saint Ann, JA. A celebration of life for Allan will take place on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at 5:00pm with a visitation from 4:00pm - 5:00pm at Howard K. Hill Funeral Services, 319 Barbour Street, Hartford, CT 06120. Inurnment with take place on Saturday, February 5, 2022 at 11:00am at Spring Grove Cemetery, 2035 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06120. To leave a message of comfort for the Thomas family and view the full obituary please visit, www.hkhfuneralservices.com

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Yarde, Craig



My Final Thoughts - By Craig Yarde
Craig Yarde died peacefully while sleeping at 71. He is survived by Barbara, his children, Tracy & Craig Yarde. The laughter, not only over the past few years but throughout his life. This memory of my time is unique & I am so beyond proud of my six grandchildren. I hope they would be as successful as I am and seeing them grow into truly successful people so truly blessed for the shared time together. I am also grateful for my entire family and numerous friends. These are cherished memories for Barb and me. I received a letter out of the blue from a friend who quoted a line from my life and it resonated with my thoughts. "I leave this world complete with the great loves and great endeavors that make life meaningful. I lived the life I intended." To my wife, children, grandchildren, family and friends. Remind me that you can change things by always surrounding you. Stay strong. It is a great world if you do not let it be. I cherish all the memories of my hometown, Bristol CT. With all the associates and colleagues that worked with me at O'Brien. We opened the financial books, shared profits together for your loyalty. We treated all like equals and with respect. I want to be treated as you move through life. It was an honor. That's it for me. Make each moment a great one and enjoy Craig Yarde

From Craig's Family:
We would like to say "thank you" for the thousands of letters and messages received in the past six months. They were truly heartfelt and they allowed us to share our community and industry. There are no immediate funeral services. We would like to leave an online message of condolence, share a memorial or visit the family at www.obrienfuneralhome.com



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Barone, James Edward



James Edward "Jimmy" Barone, Jr., 67, of Burnsville, NC, beloved husband of Rhonda (Hall) Barone, passed away on Wednesday, January 26, 2022. A native of the Hartford area, he was a son of the late James E. Barone, Sr., and Alice (Zanetti) Barone. James was a die-hard NY Yankees fan who loved all sports and enjoyed bowling. He coached little league baseball for many years in West Hartford, CT. Jimmy lived in the Hartford area most of his life, before moving to the Burnsville, NC area seven years ago. Prior to his retirement, he was a service advisor at automobile dealerships in the Hartford area. Besides his wife, Jimmy is survived by his daughter Stephanie Nye of Boston, MA; his "bonus" daughter, Krysten Nye of Colchester; a granddaughter on the way, Harper Mary-Anne Nosal; his first cousin, "bonus" sister Rose Marie Worley; his two cats Blakey and Shelton and his dog Nikko. He was predeceased by a brother William "Billy" Barone. Visitation will be Thursday, February 3, 2022, from 9:30-10:30 am at Sheehan Hilborn Breen Funeral Home, 1084 New Britain Ave, West Hartford, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 am at St. Brigid Church, West Hartford. Burial will be in Rose Hill Memorial Park, Rocky Hill. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to the Yancey County Animal Shelter at 211 Kind Hearts Way, Burnsville, NC 28714. Online condolences may be made at www.sheehanhilbornbreen.com



Please sign guestbook at [courant.com/obituaries](https://www.courant.com/obituaries)

Cassarino, Paula A

Paula Ann Cassarino (b. 11/29/1947), died on 1/21/2022 at age 74, in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. Paula was preceded by her parents, Paul and Rachael; she is survived by her sister, two brothers, two sisters-in-law and a brother-in-law, nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews; grandchildren--Desi, Eldon, Simon, Jack, and Nora; and her three children--Lori, Kimmy, and Danny, who were the loves of her life. Paula was born in Hartford, Connecticut and grew up in Rocky Hill. After her kids grew up, she bought a house in Florida and relocated to enjoy the warmer climate. She spent the last several years of her life in Massachusetts, close to her family. Many will remember Paula as struggling with schizo-affective disorder. This disease was one piece of who she was, and something she and her loved ones battled throughout her life. But her children remember her as adventurous, hopeful, persistent, resilient, and unconditionally loving. Paula came from a long line of Italian women who loved to cook. If you showed up at her house, she had homemade lasagna, pizza, and Italian cookies waiting. She also loved camping, fishing and crabbing along the Connecticut shore, and antique shopping; she loved the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, Carole King, and the Bee Gees; she adored her dogs, and all creatures great and small. She was feisty until the end—before she fell into a forever sleep, she told her children she loved them, and then argued with her daughter, Lori, about eating her last spoonful of ice cream. She also loved ice cream. Most importantly, she loved us for who we were, without expectation. "I don't see why we have to say, 'I will die,' because I can already see myself in you, and in other people, and in future generations." -Thich Nhat Hanh Our mom would have benefitted from research and resources to support her throughout her journey with mental illness, and to help others understand her better. Please consider donating to The Brain and Behavior Research Foundation: <https://www.bbrfoundation.org/> Please sign guestbook at [courant.com/obituaries](https://www.courant.com/obituaries)

Henderson, Bernadette Byrdsong



Bernadette (Byrdsong) Henderson 71, devoted wife of Jack Henderson, of Macon, Georgia, transitioned peacefully on Sunday, January 16, 2022, surrounded by her loving family. Bernadette was born July 19, 1950, in Hartford, Connecticut, daughter of the late Rafer Byrdsong Sr. & Natalie (Clements) Byrdsong. Bernadette leaves to cherish her memories, her daughter Selina Joiner; her son, Dorian Byrdsong; one sister, Radine Byrdsong; three brothers, Rafer Byrdsong Jr., Myron Byrdsong, and Andre Byrdsong, and a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, other relatives and friends. Funeral services will be held at 6pm on Friday, February 4, 2022, at the Lodge Community Chapel, 130 Deerfield Road, Windsor, Connecticut. The family will receive friends prior from 5pm-6pm. For the complete obituary and online condolences, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



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Sherry, Kevin O



Kevin O. Sherry passed away January 22, 2022, surrounded by his family. Kevin was born in Bronx, NY. After moving to Connecticut, he began his career with Stone & Webster, constructing Millstone Nuclear Power Station Unit III. He then moved his family to Oswego, NY to build Nine Mile Point Nuclear Power Station Unit II. Returning to Connecticut, Kevin moved into the heavy highway project industry and, working for various companies, built multiple roadways and bridges throughout New England. Most recently with FIGG Bridge Inspection, Kevin, working as a chief inspector, oversaw the rehabilitation of the Arrigoni Bridge and the largest bridge in Connecticut, the Gold Star Memorial Bridge. Kevin enjoyed snowmobiling and racing in many forms including drag racing, ATV racing, and all the mechanical challenges related to these activities. As an avid drummer, he enjoyed playing in multiple bands and sharing his love of music with everyone. Kevin built the family home where he and his wife of 40 years, Penny, raised their two sons, Ryan and Keith. Kevin's family continues to grow adding daughters-in-law, Jessica and Megan, who blessed him with multiple grandchildren. His large family includes three sisters, Marie, Patricia and Helen; multiple in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins and a myriad of friends. After the death of his father, Eugene O. Sherry, Kevin's mother Anne Sherry, who also pre-deceased him, was instrumental in making him into the amazing person and loving family man he became. A celebration of his life will be scheduled in the early spring. Please sign guestbook at [courant.com/obituaries](https://www.courant.com/obituaries)

OBITUARIES

Anderson, Adam R.



Adam R. Anderson, 40, of West Suffield, passed away on Sunday, January 23, 2022 at his home.
Born November 2, 1981 in Haywood, CA, he was the son of Elizabeth (Blair) Anderson of Silver Ridge Township, ME and the late James P. Anderson. Adam was employed for 11 years at Robinson & Cole as a Litigation Systems Engineer.
Adam obtained his sport and remote pilot licenses and enjoyed flying any chance he had. He also loved camping, scuba diving, cooking and going on Dunkin runs with his dogs.
He will be sadly missed by his wife of eight years, Jill Anderson; his sister, Mary Eckola, her husband, Chris and their child, Connor of New Britain; his mother and her partner Hakan Svantesson; his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Richard and Theresa Migneault of Franklin, NH; a brother-in-law, Michael Migneault of Webster, NH; and his beloved dogs, Minnie, Maximus, and Mississippi.
His family will receive relatives and friends on Friday, February 4, 2022 from 6-8 PM at Nicholson & Carmon Funeral Home, 443 East St. N. (Rt. 159), Suffield.
In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Big Fluffy Dog Rescue, P.O. Box 160485, Nashville, TN 37216 or bigfluffydogs.com To leave on-line condolences please visit carmonfuneralhome.com



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Bowler, John J.



PLEASANT VALLEY – BOWLER – John J. Bowler of Pleasant Valley, died at home on January 23, 2022 after a long illness. He was 93.
Born in Waterbury, he was the son of John and Mary (Hickson) Bowler, who had come from Ireland. John would later become Chaplain of the Connecticut Ancient Order of Hibernians.
After graduating from St. Thomas Seminary, he served in parishes in Meriden, Wethersfield and New Britain. In New Britain, he belonged to various interfaith organizations and was a corporater at New Britain General Hospital. He held two master's degrees and also studied in Rome. In addition, he was Chairman of the Council of Conciliation in the Archdiocese of Hartford.
In 1976, he was assigned to Immaculate Conception Parish in New Hartford, where he served for several years and wrote Our First Hundred Years to commemorate the centennial of the parish. After resigning from the priesthood, he became a social worker for the state of Connecticut.
He is survived by his wife, Mary; his brother, Thomas of New York City; and several nieces and nephews.
Funeral services will be held at a later date. Montano-Shea Funeral Home, New Hartford has care of the arrangements. Visit an online guestbook at montano-shea.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Hood, Rachel M.

Rachel M. Hood, 93, of Windsor, CT departed this earthly life on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at home with family. She was born in Vicksburg, MS to the late Howard J. and Susie E. (Hughes) Hood. Mourning her passing is her sister Kathryn L. Ward of WI, Diann (John) Holloman of Willimantic, Calvin Hood of Hartford, Cecelia (Cece) Peppers-Johnson of TX, Marcquille Johnson of CA, Gordon L. Peppers (Monique) Jr of OR, Tiffany A.K. (Ricardo, Kendall, Logan) Ortiz of Windsor, CT. Services will be Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. at All Faith Memorial Chapel, 90 John Fitch Blvd, South Windsor, CT. A memorial service celebration of her life will be embraced on May 1, 2022. Time and location to be announced.

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Valley, Lynn G.



Lynn Gilbert Valley, 74, passed away January 23, 2022, in Bristol, CT where she was tenderly cared for at her daughter's home during her final months. She is survived by three children: Donovan Valley, and his wife Marie; Nicole Dort-Williams, and her fiancé Elvis Gooden; and Daniel Valley, and his wife Marisa; as well as seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. A daughter of five, her siblings are Gerald "Buster" Gilbert, James Gilbert, Nancy Kane, and Norma Gilbert. She also leaves behind a dear friend Sherry Robinson, who she considered family. Lynn grew up in Granby, CT and spent many years devotedly caring for others as a Nurse's Aide at McLean Retirement Community. She will be remembered for how much she loved her grandchildren. To leave online condolences please visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

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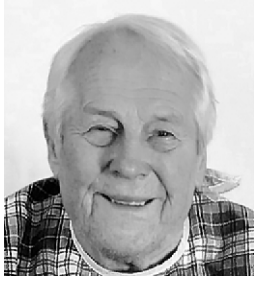
Wohlsen, Jr., Theodore O.



Theodore O. Wohlsen, Jr., 85, of Philadelphia, passed away on January 26, 2022. He was the beloved husband of Grace M. (Zahn) Wohlsen. Born in Lancaster he was the son of the late Theodore O. and Anne Elizabeth (Heller) Wohlsen, Sr. Ted earned his bachelor's degree from Franklin & Marshall College and later received his Master of Science in Library Science (MSLS) degree from Drexel University. He worked as a librarian at the Philadelphia Free Library, where he met his wife, and later at the Connecticut State Library. He loved theater and baseball. He was a diehard Phillies fan and member of the Society of American Baseball Research. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his daughter, Elizabeth Anne Wohlsen Bennett (Justin), of Alexandria, VA; son, Theodore O. Wohlsen, III (Maarika), of Staten Island, NY; grandson, Noah Wohlsen; brother David Wohlsen, of Bennington, VT; and sister-in-law, Helen Loucks, of York, PA. Services will be held at St. Peter's Church in Philadelphia at a later date. Information will be updated at www.philadelphiafuneralcare.com. In lieu of flowers, donations in Ted's name are requested to the 1761 Society at St. Peter's, 313 Pine Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106 or to the Trauma Center or Abramson Cancer Center at Penn Presbyterian Hospital, 31 N. 39th St, Philadelphia 19104. Funeral arrangements entrusted to The Oliver H. Bair Co. (215) 563-1580

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Avens, Visvaldis



4.07.1932-1.26.2022 One of a kind! Born in Latvia, he immigrated to the United States in 1953. Visi's life is good mantra exemplified hard work, kindness, loyalty and selflessness. Visi cherished wonderful life adventures with his family and friends. An established craftsman, he took pride in home projects, traveling and relaxing in his yard or at the beach. Born an ambitiously stubborn Aries fueled his persistence in navigating almost ninety happy years. Always protected by his four-legged companion, his smile, stories and unique sense of humor lit up a room and touched many lives. In the later years, Visi became quite the self-proclaimed ladies' man. He could never watch enough Westerns featuring Clint Eastwood and John Wayne, nature shows coming in a close second. Many memories were made over the love of food, a true foodie, fond of oysters, prime rib, and of course, the gravies and bacon, always saving just enough room for chocolate. Please join in celebrating Visi's life by raising a glass of your favorite libation in his honor. Visi's life wish was peace on earth. Instead of flowers or donations, in his eternal memory, please continue to be kind, forgiving and loving with yourself and each other. He peacefully passed at his home that he fondly referred to as "The Bird House."

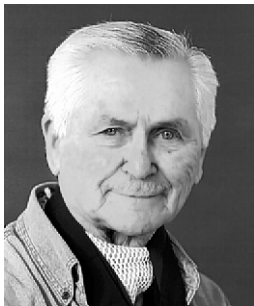
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Botwick, Devida S (Ditman)

Devida passed away January 20th, 2022.
She was born December 15th, 1928. Originally from Larchmont, NY, she was the daughter of the late Bernice (Gordon) Ditman and Aaron Ditman. She was predeceased by her husband H. Barry Botwick. Devida attended The Julliard School of Performing Arts. In the fall of her freshman year, she answered a casting call for Rogers and Hammerstein and was accepted. Her Broadway credits as (Devida Stewart) include Allegro and Small Wonder singing and dancing as a cast member and understudy.
In the 1960's and 1970's Devida was a vocal coach for many high school students in West Hartford and the surrounding towns.
Later she went into the Residential Real Estate field which culminated in her owning her own real estate company Personal Properties for many years.
She was a 60+ year member of Temple Beth Israel and the Temple's Sisterhood.
She leaves her Son Jay Botwick, Daughter Fern Botwick, Daughter-In-Law Cindy Hendel Botwick, Grandson Alexander Botwick DMD, and his wife Andrea Lubitz MD, Great Grandchildren Nathan Botwick and Ariella Botwick.
Donations can be made to Temple Beth Israel in West Hartford, their Music Fund or Sisterhood.
Graveside service will be held Wednesday, February 2nd @ 11:00 AM.
Temple Beth Israel Cemetery, 51 Jackson Street, Avon, CT 06001.

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O'Neill, Thomas O.



Thomas Owen O'Neill (Butch) passed away peacefully January 24, 2022 at the age of 83. Thomas was born in Manchester to the parents of Thomas J. O'Neill and Mary M. O'Neill (Peggy). He is preceded in death by his brothers Raymond O'Neill and John O'Neill and his sister Sheila Chermeka. He leaves behind his sister Peggy Heon of Tenn, his wife Denise Clark O'Neill of Danielson, CT; son John O'Neill of Bolton, CT; daughters Kathy Shakir of Coventry, CT and Delana Hewig of Putnam, CT and Amanda and Matt Kennedy of Coventry, CT; his eleven grandchildren and his six great grandchildren. Also many nieces, nephews and relatives in Ireland.

He lived in Manchester for over 30 years and worked at the Cheeney Mills. In early 1970's he settled in Danielson, CT. He worked Security at Anchor Glass till it closed. He enjoyed his family and joking with the grandchildren and watching them all grow. He was proud of his Irish/Scottish heritage and was very proud of the O'Neill family name. He will be sadly missed with his amazing blue eyes and witty humor. Calling Hours will be Saturday, February 5, 2022 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM at the Gagnon and Costello Funeral Home, 33 Reynolds Street, Danielson, CT. Burial will be in the Spring in Westfield Cemetery Danielson, CT. Share a memory at gagnonandcostellofh.com

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Snyder, Anne C.



Anne C. (Jacobsen) Snyder, 75, of West Hartford, passed away unexpectedly Saturday, January 22nd, 2022 at her home. Born March 12th, 1946, daughter of the late Christian and Eleanor (Anderson) Jacobsen, she was a graduate of William H. Hall High School in West Hartford. Early in her career, Anne worked in the X-Ray Department at Hartford Hospital but spent most of her career in retail ending with ten years at Talbots. She was an avid shopper and enjoyed assisting her customers. Anne loved sending cards to family and friends.
Anne is survived by her sisters, Janice A. Sessamen (Gene) of Unionville and Diane E. Corr (Artie) of Summerfield, FL, her nieces, Jaclyn Corr and Mindy Corr both of San Antonio, TX and her nephew, Brian Stevenson and family of Griswold. Besides her parents, Anne was predeceased by her sister, Karen Stevenson, her brother-in-law, Robert Stevenson and her niece, Cheryl Stevenson.
Funeral Services and burial will be private at the convenience of the family. In memory of Anne, please send a card to someone to brighten their day. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hartford Hospital, ATTN: Department of Philanthropy, 80 Seymour Street, P.O. Box 5037, Hartford, CT 06102 or to the Connecticut Humane Society, 701 Russell Road, Newington, CT 06111. Arrangements are being handled by The Ahern Funeral Homes, Inc., www.ahern-funeralhome.com.

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Bittner, Janice (Abild)

Jan Bittner of Willington, Conn., wife of Robert Bittner for over 53 years passed away at Vernon Manor on January 21, 2022. She was born in New Britain, CT on June 22, 1945 to the late Robert and Ruth Abild.

She graduated from New Britain High School and earned a B.A. at Central Connecticut State University and M.S. at UConn. She taught in East Hartland, Fort Bragg, in Vernon and at various business schools.

Jan established the Fenton River Typing Service in her home and then opened an office at Phelps Crossing in Willington. She later worked at Lee, Hecht Harrison and finally worked as Administrative Assistant at the United Church of Christ Conference Center until her retirement.

She was an active member of the United Congregational church of Tolland for 42 years and was an active choir member. Jan's and Bob created the Music on the Green concert series at their church, which ran for over nine years.

Jan is survived by her husband Bob and son David and his wife Tai-Son and grandson Barnabas of Vernon. She leaves her son Dan and his wife Jill, and grandchildren Ella and Foster of Danvers, MA. In addition she is survived by her brother John Abild and his wife Yvette from Kentucky and many nieces and nephews.

There are no calling hours. A private memorial service will be held February 26, 2022 and streamed online on the church website at www.uccctolland.org. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the United Congregational Church of Tolland, Horsman Organ Fund at 45 Tolland Green, Tolland, CT 06084. Donations may be made by check or on the church website.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Chase, Evelyn Umbaugh



Rome, Maine--Evelyn Umbaugh Chase, 98, peacefully passed away on January 19, 2022, at Lakewood Nursing Home in Waterville, ME. She was born on May 10, 1923, in Ohio City, OH and grew up in Angola, Indiana where she lived until she married and moved to CT. She lived in Avon, CT for 60

years then moved to Maine to live with her daughter and son-in-law, Pam, and Scott Christensen. She loved to sew and was a beautiful seamstress making clothes for herself and her daughters. She loved to read, especially historical novels. For many years she worked in the retail business for Lord & Taylor, Eleanor Rose Shop, and D & L Store. She is survived by her two daughters, Vicky and Ed Nardi of Southington, CT and Pam and Scott Christensen of Rome, Maine; three grandchildren, Chris (Cathy) Nardi, Jeff (Dana) Nardi, and Ben (Vicky) Nardi; eight great grandchildren; and her niece, Pam Harbaugh of Houston, TX. Her ashes will be buried later this year in Van Wert, OH. We thank Mary Williams, her private CNA who took excellent care of her while living with Pam and Scott. We also thank the staff at Lakewood, Laila, Courtney, Sarah, Stephanie, and many others. We also thank the team at Beacon Hospice for their care and comfort. Arrangements are in the care of the Wheeler Funeral Home, 26 Church St. Oakland, where condolences may be shared with the family on the obituary page of the website at www.familyfirstfuneralhomes.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Hannah, Wanda Beatrice



Wanda Beatrice Hannah, 95, of Simsbury, wife of the late Andrew Hannah, passed peacefully Monday, January 17, 2022 at McLean in Simsbury. She was born February 11, 1926 in Philadelphia, PA, daughter of the late Edward and Wanda (Zoltow) Majeski, and lived in West Hartford and Simsbury for over 65 years. Wanda enjoyed classical music, opera and playing cards, poetry, antiques, and spending time with family and friends.

She was always a loving partner and later a loving caregiver to Andrew in his later years. She is survived by her loving children, Lynne Kelsey and husband Robert of Kennebunk, ME, Drew Hannah and wife Ellen of Simsbury and Lesley Denhof and husband Steve of Simsbury; her grandchildren, Gregory Kelsey and wife Jennifer, Eric Kelsey and wife Paula, Scott Hannah, Neil Hannah and wife Morgan, Aimee Bergantio and husband Chris (Charles), Katherine Blakeley and husband Tom, Andrew Pokrandt and wife Danielle and Hannah Denhof; her great grandchildren, Andy, Mary and Lawrence Kelsey, Blakely Bergantino and George, Henry and Elizabeth Blakeley and several nieces. She was predeceased by her sister, Marie Harvey and her brother, Edward Majeski. Memorial Service and celebration of life will be delayed until springtime. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to McLean Foundation, 75 Great Pond Road, Simsbury, CT 06070. The Vincent Funeral Home of Simsbury is caring for the arrangements. Please visit Wanda's "Book of Memories" at www.vincentfuneral-home.com for online tributes.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Veillette, Janice Marie



Janice Marie (Mayer) Veillette, 81, of Chatham, MA, died Monday, January 17th, 2022 in Chatham. Born in Meriden, CT, she was the daughter of the late Ernest and Elsie (L'Heureux) Mayer. Janice graduated from Meriden High School in 1958. While raising her family with her former late husband, Peter Veillette, in Arlington,

VA, she held positions at Catholic Charities and HEW Federal Credit Union. She enjoyed music, playing the piano, and playing the organ for her church choir. Throughout her life she gave her time volunteering to help others, including child foster care, soup kitchens, various church and school activities, and being a caregiver to family and friends. She loved taking road trips, both short and long, and traveling to visit friends and family on the East Coast or as far away as California and New Zealand. Janice is preceded in death by her brother, Robert Mayer, and survived by sister-in-law, Jill, of AZ. She is survived by her sister Marlene Cody of Pleasanton, CA, children Jo-Ann Nedlik (Brian) of Binghamton, NY, Philip Veillette of North Kingstown, RI, and Stephen Veillette of Chatham, MA, grandchildren Cory Nedlik, Kyle Nedlik (Chelsea), Christopher Nedlik, and great-grandchild, Jack, all of Binghamton, NY. She is also survived by many cousins, nieces, and nephews. Services will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations to benefit Chatham Fire and Rescue may be made in Janice's memory to Chatham Fire Association, PO Box 751, Chatham, MA 02633. For online condolences, please visit www.nickersonfunerals.com.

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Visit the obituary section on courant.com to share memories of loved ones.

OBITUARIES

Hendricks, Lillie



Lillie Hendricks, 100, of Alpharetta, GA went to be with the Lord on Thursday, January 20, 2022. Lillie was born on November 24, 1921, to the late Robert Mack, Sr. and Georgianna Cook in Little Rock, SC. A celebration of life for Lille will take place on Monday, January 31, 2022 at 11:00am with a visitation from 10:00am – 11:00am at Hopewell Baptist Church, 280 Windsor Avenue, Windsor, CT 06095. Interment will be held at a later date at Northwood Cemetery, 79 Matianuck Avenue, Windsor, CT 06095. Donations and contributions on behalf of Lillie Hendricks, can be made payable to Hopewell Baptist Church Scholarship Fund, 280 Windsor Avenue, Windsor, CT 06095. To leave a message of comfort for the Hendricks family, view the full obituary and livestreaming of services, please visit, www.hkhfuneralservices.com



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LaRochelle, Andre' L



Andre’ Lester LaRochelle, beloved husband of Barbara (LaMonica) LaRochelle of Burlington, CT, passed away on January 26, 2022.

Born on February 2, 1937, at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford, he was the son of the late Raymond and Leanna (LeBlanc) LaRochelle. Early the family lived in Frog Hollow, involved in St. Anne’s



Church and the Parochial Grammar School, and interacting with the French community. The family lived on the third floor on York St., and had a small grocery store nearby on Zion St., near Park. While quite young, Andre’ and his older brother enjoyed working there because they were helping their loving parents. In time, father and mother bought a house on Hillside Avenue, just past Flatbush which was a blessing to all.

Andre’ went to Buckley PHS and had to get up very early every morning as a paperboy for the Hartford Courant. In his third year at Buckley, he enlisted in the Connecticut Air National Guard serving in medical administration.

Andre’ was grateful that he was admitted to Trinity College. He worked evenings at Hartford Hospital as a Medical Technician on N9R to cover expenses. After graduating with his BA degree, he was commissioned as a second Lieutenant in the Air Force Medical Service Corps while still in the Connecticut National Guard.

After college, he worked at The Travelers Insurance Company in Pensions until he entered active duty in the U.S. Air Force. He was assigned to the Hospital at England Air Force Base in Louisiana.

He had been married for a few years when he received orders to report to a remote counter insurgency site in the Nakhon Phanom Thailand (not far from Laos) at the 56th Air Force Dispensary. His only child, a daughter, was born halfway through his tour.

The next assignment was to join the faculty at the Air Force Medical Services School at Sheppard Air Force Base in Texas, with his wife and daughter.

For the family, he left the Air Force to accept a two-year stipend to L.S.U.’s School of Social Work. He was Class President at graduation for his master’s degree in social work.

The Louisiana Department of Hospitals selected him to open an Alcoholism and Family Services in Shreveport. It turned out to be most effective and enjoyable. After a few years, he decided to leave that clinic to open a Catholic Family Services Agency in Shreveport for the Bishop, providing counselling and adoption services. He was quite happy to be able to attend Mass daily and was a Lay Eucharistic Minister.

Andre’ had served on the Louisiana State Board of Certified Social Work Examiners for several years, including one as President. In 1979, he was elected “Louisiana Social Worker of the Year”. He continued working for the Diocese but then received a request from the Air Force Reserves, that he was familiar with as he had, in times, been active with them. He was asked to represent team at “The Defense Opportunity Management Institute” at Patrick Air Force Base, Florida. He accepted and joined the faculty. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel halfway through this assignment. He received the “Department of Defense Meritorious Service Medal” from the Secretary of Defense, Caspar Weinberger.

At a later date, Andre’ was returned from the U.S. Air Force “having served faithfully and honorably.”

In 1984, Andre’ had returned to Connecticut and opened “The Gables of Devenwood” in Farmington as the Executive Director. He was overjoyed at its success with seniors finding comfort and joy. Also, around that time, he had married his love, Barbara, who enriched his life all of these years.

Later, Andre’ returned to his favorite profession as a Clinical Social Worker (LCSW). At age 76, he retired from Hartford Hospital (Institute of Living).

Andre’ was always a kind and understanding person who found pleasure when he could help others have happier life.

Besides his wife, Barbara of 35 years, he leaves his daughter, Lauren and her husband Budge Cutrera, as well as his grandson Joseph of Cohutta, Georgia, his niece Janine LaRochelle and her spouse Pam Libby of Florida; Andre’ younger sister Rhea and her husband Anthony Lettiere of West Hartford, and their children, nephew Chris and his wife Moira Lettier of Florida, niece Jane Marie and her husband David Torlal of Torrington; nephews Daniel and his wife Elain Lettiere of Mystic, CT.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Thursday, February 3, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Peter Church, (St. John Paul the Great Parish) 99 East Main St., Torrington, CT. Final military honors will be accorded at the end of the Mass at St. Peter Church. Burial will be private. There are no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Red Cloud Indian School, Pine Ridge, South Dakota 57770.

Condolences may be sent to Andre’s family by visiting www.cookfuneralhomect.com

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Rogers, Clark M.



Clark M. Rogers, 83, of Hartford, beloved husband of Nan (Sankey) Rogers, died on Thursday, January 27th. Clark was born in Birmingham, AL on Sept 1, 1938; son of the late Edward Allen and Berney Jane Rogers. Clark was predeceased by his son, Andrew Rogers. In addition to his loving wife of 61 years, he is survived by his son, Christopher Rogers and wife, Cynthia; his daughter, Julia Hood and husband, Andrew; his son Grantland Rogers and wife, Judy; and 10 grand and great grandchildren: Duncan, Sean, Amanda, Lauren, Aaron, Grace, Leo, Isla, Aubrey, and Logan. He was a man of many talents; a professor of English, speech and drama, and held positions at various colleges including UNC, Chapel Hill, NC, and as Theater Department Chairman at New Mexico State University. After leaving academia, he was a training manager at Grolier, Inc. in Danbury, CT, and owned a used book store in Richmond, VA with his wife. Clark was active in community and professional theater for most of his life, appearing as Felix Unger in The Odd Couple and Ellwood Dowd in Harvey, and various off-broadway and film appearances. Clark often chose the “road less traveled” as he lived his life, and brought his love of people, storytelling, music by Neil Diamond, corny jokes, and the arts to everything he did. He will be dearly missed by all of those who were lucky enough to experience his humor, his generosity, and his boundless spirit. A celebration of his life will be held in the spring. Memorial contributions may be made to the Actors Fund (ActorsFund.org), or to the Universalist Church of West Hartford, where both he and Nan were members. Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center of Avon has care of the arrangements. For condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



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Roy, Gloria Anne (Comeau)

Gloria Anne (Comeau) Roy, 92, of Unionville, wife of the late Earl Andrew Roy, Sr., died Thursday, July 13, 2022 peacefully at home. She was born June 19, 1929 in Hartford, daughter of the late Edmund Joseph and Helen (Lebel) Comeau and had lived in Collinsville prior to moving to Unionville over 50 years ago. Mrs. Roy was a Postal Clerk for the US Postal Service for many 21 years having worked in the Unionville and Farmington Post Offices. She was a member of the Farmington Senior Citizens and had enjoyed crocheting and sewing, taking walks and solving jigsaw and word puzzles. She is survived by her daughter, Lucinda Kozikowski of Unionville and her son, Earl A. Roy, Jr. and his wife Gail of Presque Isle, ME. She was predeceased by her siblings. Services will be private. The Vincent Funeral Home of Canton is caring for the arrangements.

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Yost, Mark Dennis

Mark Dennis Yost, 77, of Burlington, beloved husband of Mary Ann (Dubay) Yost, died Wednesday, January 26, 2022 at John Dempsey Hospital. He was born July 16, 1945 in Manchester, son of the late Leonard and Gladys (Lamprecht) Yost and had lived in California prior to moving to Burlington 45 years ago. Mr. Yost was on the Canton Board of Education for many years prior to his retirement. Mark was a member of the Canton Volunteer Fire Department. He loved taking long rides in the car and was an avid fan of the Boston Red Sox and the Dallas Cowboys. He also enjoyed going to Virginia every year and working in the garden. In addition to his wife of 36 years, he is survived by his daughter, Wendy Ouellette and husband Christopher of Unionville; his brother-in-law, David Dubay of Bristol and a niece Sabrina Dubay of Virginia. Calling hours will be held at the Vincent Funeral Home, 120 Albany Turnpike in Canton on Thursday, February 3rd from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Please visit Mark’s “Book of Memories” at www.vincentfuneralhome.com for online tributes.

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IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory Of
CYNTHIA L. (PAC) VIOLETTE



Aug. 27, 1956 - Jan. 30, 2020



I’ve cried a billion tears since this day, two years ago, when God broke my spirit, my heart and my soul when He took my Cindy home. But I know through His mercy and love He will heal me when He calls me home to be reunited with my Cindy again! I miss you baby girl and think of you every second of every day!! I love you always and forever!! We will be together again soon!! Love Mark!

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SPORTS BALLS	STAR FILLED	STAR OPEN
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According to Connecticut Airport Authority Executive Director Kevin Dillon, Hartford-Brainard Airport supports 361 jobs, brings in \$28 million in wages, has an economic impact of \$59 million and pays \$1.3 million in state and local taxes. **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

OP-ED

Why Hartford-Brainard Airport should stay open

By Stephen Demko

As a lifelong Connecticut resident, I am concerned about Hartford’s attempt to close an important regional asset: Hartford-Brainard Airport.

I began training for flight instructor at Brainard in the 1990s and eventually became a pilot for a major airline. Despite traveling all over the world, I have never left Connecticut and never stopped using Brainard Airport. I am immersed in general aviation in Connecticut and feel strongly about Brainard’s value to the state.

I recently flew into Brainard to bring an aircraft for avionics upgrades to VIP, the avionics facility located on the field. This visit contributed to the Hartford economy, as do the thousands of others that frequent this respected avionics provider. Patrons who utilized Brainard Airport are contributing to the local economy through tourism, hospitality, fuel purchases and any other money spent in the Hartford area. These expenditures are vital to the Connecticut economy, boost tax revenue and sustain jobs for the region and state.

In October, the Hartford City

Council voted to support a resolution for a commission focused on the closure of Brainard Airport and the redevelopment of the land “with resulting increase to the city’s grand list and creating job opportunities for residents.” This is flawed and a gross misrepresentation of the facts by Councilman James Sanchez, an MDC employee and proponent of redeveloping Brainard. There is a long history of MDC’s attempts to close Brainard Airport and claim part of the land. Fair market value of Brainard Airport is near \$45 million, which by law, the state will need to pay for takeover and redevelopment.

Connecticut Airport Authority Executive Director Kevin Dillon told town and city councils that Brainard Airport is a strong financial benefit to the state. It supports 361 jobs, brings in \$28 million in wages, has an economic impact of \$59 million and pays \$1.3 million in state and local taxes, he said. His presentation also conveyed that 81% of the noise complaints emerging from Wethersfield emanate from one phone number.

The CAA and stakeholders have specific plans to grow the airport and support investment, plans that have been hampered by city roadblocks.

Tree trimming needed for airport safety areas has proved to be environmentally and wildlife friendly. Despite these facts, Hartford leaders continue to deny a 2016 bipartisan study that concluded Brainard Airport was a value to the region. This study strongly supported expansion and keeping Brainard Airport open.

Connecticut residents need to ask: What has changed in five years, and is Hartford fiscally sound enough to take on the expense of redevelopment of Brainard Airport, or will it become another road show for Mayor Luke Bronin to ask neighboring towns for a bailout yet again? Why aren’t the intentions and plans of Hartford’s leaders more transparent? As voters and taxpayers we need to start asking questions of our state and federal representatives in the state legislature and Congress.

Each time I return to Brainard Airport, I’m reminded of the people creating 50,000 yearly operations. This includes the Connecticut State Police, the Civil Air Patrol (search and rescue and cadet training), the FBI, Life Flight medical transport and three flight schools (which are training pilots to fill a nationwide shortage). As a captain for a major

U.S. airline, I am acutely aware of the serious pilot shortage in the U.S. We simply can’t hire enough qualified pilots. Also, many students attend the Connecticut Aero Tech School, which feeds the mechanic and avionics technician pipelines to our region and nation, two other areas in need of qualified employees.

Large and small tax-paying companies use Brainard Airport to support their businesses. On the Connecticut registry of historic places, Brainard Airport is well-poised to potentially build a museum with its historical memorabilia. Brainard Airport benefits all of Connecticut and the region. If Brainard Airport closes, its 50,000-plus aircraft operations per year could create massive delays at Bradley Airport, a consequence the CAA cannot afford.

Every citizen should urge their representatives to look into this matter before it is too late. If you are interested in more information about Brainard Airport, its history, and support it remaining open, please email the Hartford Brainard Airport Association at keepbrainardflying@gmail.com.

Stephen Demko is a pilot who lives in Seymour.

How defending democracy in Ukraine will bolster it at home



Kevin Rennie

Evil is on the march. Mariana Zhaglo is ready to battle it on the front line of freedom. Zhaglo, a 52-year-old Ukrainian marketing researcher and mother of three, posed for a dramatic photograph in her Kiev kitchen holding a hunting rifle.

Zhaglo told The Times of London she has never hunted but purchased the “carbine after listening to some soldiers discussing the best rifle to get. If it comes to it, then we will fight for Kiev; we will fight to protect our city.” With more than 120,000 troops massed on Ukraine’s border, Zhaglo may soon have to fight.

The prospects for peace appear grim.

A Russian invasion would be difficult for Ukraine to repel. A flash strike at Kiev would allow autocrat Vladimir Putin to show his modern weaponry, purchased by impoverishing the Russian people.

Putin has been tormenting Ukraine for years. He invaded Crimea in 2014 and continues to occupy it. In 2019, Donald Trump was willing to sacrifice Ukraine by withholding military aid until President Volodymyr Zelensky announced an investigation of Joe Biden’s son Hunter’s business dealings in the eastern European democracy.

That provided the basis of Trump’s first impeachment. Revulsion at Trump’s embrace of dictators and contempt for our democratic allies caused enough suburban Republican-leaning

voters to help Joe Biden win Pennsylvania, Michigan, Georgia, Wisconsin, Arizona and the presidency.

Facing down Putin in Ukraine would demonstrate to the world that democracies are united in the defense of freedom and can summon the strength required to maintain peace in Europe. It may offset the damage done to Biden’s reputation by the chaotic August retreat from Afghanistan. Others are watching. Failure in Ukraine could embolden China to make the free people of Taiwan a garrison state — or worse and expand its ambitions in the Pacific.

Polls, with an outlier now and then, consistently find Biden’s approval ratings hovering around 40%. Those polls have Democrats edging toward despair for their prospects in November’s



Ukrainian servicemen carry water supplies for an advanced position on the front line in the Luhansk area. The U.S. rejection of Russia’s main demands to resolve the crisis over Ukraine left “little ground for optimism,” the Kremlin said Thursday, but added that dialogue was still possible. **VADIM GHIRDA/AP**

Turn to Rennie, Page 2

Helen Bennett
Executive Editor
hbennett@courant.com

OPINION

COURANT.COM/OPINION

EDITORIAL

Another deadly epidemic needs our attention: fentanyl overdoses

It's no secret that fentanyl kills. According to the state's "Drug Overdose Deaths in Connecticut Data Dashboard" there were 7,636 unintentional drug overdose deaths in Connecticut from 2015 to 2021. Among those deaths, 5,293 involved fentanyl or fentanyl analog, according to the data shown on the dashboard. And while there were 728 overall overdose deaths in 2015, there were 1,359 in 2021, the data shows. That is a very steep hike, but an easier way to think about the enormity of it may be to note that the state Department of Public Health says that, in Connecticut, residents are "more likely to die from unintentional drug overdose than a motor vehicle accident."

"The majority of these deaths are linked to overdose of prescription opioid painkillers and illicit opioids," the agency says. The horror of this hit home in Hartford this month with the death of a 13-year-old boy who police said overdosed at a city school. Police said they found 40 bags of fentanyl packed for street-level sale in the school the boy attended. And just in Greater Hartford, the synthetic opioid seems ubiquitous. In December federal authorities said they filed drug charges against 21 people accused of running a cocaine and fentanyl ring that spanned Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Maine and Puerto Rico. This month, police arrested a Hartford man who they said had a stolen gun and 116 bags of fentanyl.



Hartford police say they arrested a man after seizing this stolen gun and more than 100 bags of fentanyl on Jan. 19. **HARTFORD POLICE**

In Rocky Hill, federal authorities this month said a man who had more than 300 grams of unpackaged fentanyl and approximately 3,500 bags of packaged fentanyl at his home now faces prison. And on Jan. 14, Hartford police issued a warning stating they recently recovered

fentanyl 50 times more potent than the kind typically tested across New England. As part of that warning, police said, "The strength and potency of this product can be deadly to anyone coming in contact with it, including absorption through the skin."

And it turns out that, according to medical and addiction experts, the information about skin absorption is not true. "I am unaware ... of a legitimate, scientifically reviewed, published case report of dermal powder fentanyl exposure resulting in severe toxicity and death," Dr. Suzanne Doyon, medical director of the Connecticut Poison Control Center, told a Courant reporter. Hartford police later clarified what they wrote in the warning. "We've always had training bulletins and things that [said] you're not supposed to touch this stuff because it can be absorbed through the skin. Apparently that is no longer the case," Lt. Aaron Boisvert the Hartford police spokesperson, said. Hartford police were not alone in the mistaken belief that fentanyl can be lethal through skin absorption, as it has been pervasive among law enforcement officials as police and other emergency workers have responded to more fatal overdoses over the last decade, The Courant learned. The truth and providing state residents with clear and up-to-date information is important as we face this scourge that has taken so many lives. But as Dr. Charles McKay, former president of the American College of Medical Toxicology and associate medical director of the Connecticut Poison Control Center also noted, there is an important focus that can't be lost. And that is the "widespread availability and use of very potent opioids with no idea what is in them."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Voting Rights Act should be given serious debate

The Democrats want to ram the so-called and draconian "John Lewis Voting Rights Act" through Congress with no debate, which is why "Schumer says Senate to vote on filibuster rules changes" [Page 5, Jan. 4]. Is not the Democrats' proposed federal seizure of the 50 states' Constitutional authority to manage their own elections, draw their own Congressional districts, maintain voter ID laws, scrutinize their voter registration lists in accordance with existing federal law, and prevent partisan goons from intimidating or hectoring voters enough reason to hold this bill up for honest debate by preserving the filibuster? Or is this simply another political smash-and-grab power play?

John Carey, West Hartford

Hat tip to respiratory therapists

Throughout this devastating pandemic, we have justifiably praised the health care heroes, commending doctors, nurses, EMTs and front-line workers. I would like to recognize another vital group, seldom named: respiratory therapists. These heroes are always at the bedside of patients in the ER, ICU and other settings, and a COVID-19 patient requires their

special skill set. It is the respiratory therapist who, in collaboration with the doctor, determines which method of oxygen delivery is appropriate, as well as setting up, monitoring and operating the ventilator. Respiratory therapists are critical partners in delivering optimal medical services. These incredible professionals are licensed to perform complex tasks that assist to accurately make medical decisions that save lives. **Jane Reardon, Granby**
The writer is a pulmonary clinical nurse specialist

No, these masks are not free

I been reading in the Hartford Courant and hearing claims of our governor about free masks. This follows the announcement of free COVID-19 tests, up to eight per family member per month. Is The Courant really so naïve, or is this an attempt to dupe the readers in a "something for nothing" game? Of course they're not free. Are mask manufacturers donating 500 million masks? Are trucking companies donating warehouse space, their trucks and drivers at no charge? Are the people who are distributing them not getting paid?

The Courant and Gov. Ned Lamont

should at least be truthful and call this "N95 masks available with no upfront fees." We know that every dollar that funnels through government hands comes out as a fraction of that dollar that came in. It's called overhead; it's called profit; but, it is not called free.

Steven Luger, West Hartford

More evidence Lamont's power should be cut

We need to end Gov. Ned Lamont's executive powers now. His latest blunder to require all visitors to nursing homes to be tested is a bad joke. The nursing homes are understaffed, and they now have to test every visitor? Why now? Did they over-purchase rapid tests and need to get rid of them any way they can? Just thinking out loud.

Steve McGuigan, Canton

Grateful for Christopher Arnott's review

What a lovely surprise to see Christopher Arnott's review of New Britain's Hole in the Wall's latest production of "Heartless." There was a time when many little theater productions in Greater Hartford were reviewed by The Courant [courant.com, Jan. 18, "'Heartless' at Hole in the

Wall a timeless play of isolation"]. Then suddenly, it stopped. It was a loss to those small theater companies because the recognition and tribute to local culture had been an important part of the growth of those groups and their communities. There are theaters in this area that produce really professional results and a review would be welcomed in The Courant. It was those early reviews that helped me become a published playwright, and I am grateful to the reviewers who saw merit in the work. Whenever I receive a royalty check, I have a reviewer to thank along with cast, crew and director.

Anne Pie, Berlin

Why aren't HS athletes wearing masks properly?

Reading the Community Spotlight on Farmington vs. Glastonbury in The Courant, there are 10 players facing the camera. Every player has a mask but not one has his mouth and nose covered. According to the DPH, as of Jan. 10 all players, coaches, etc., are to wear a mask properly covering the nose and mouth. Where are the coaches on teaching the danger of COVID-19, the respect of the law? These are disturbing pictures teaching youth to disregard the law, their health and the health of others.

Suzanne Travers, West Hartford

Rennie

from Page 1

midterm elections. Republicans, on the other hand, are showing signs of premature euphoria. A Republican drubbing of Democrats in November will give power to a party still in the thrall of Trump and his isolationism. Republican confidence appeared late this month in Connecticut. Republican National Committeewoman Leora Levy is contemplating a bid for the U.S. Senate against two-term incumbent Richard Blumenthal. Hearst's Dan Haar reported the Levy story Tuesday. Former House Republican Leader Themis Klarides may also be weighing a bid against Blumenthal. She's spent \$400,000 of her own money on a campaign for governor, but Republican rival Bob Stefanowski's launch of his second campaign for the state's top office may have discouraged Klarides. Klarides was reportedly preparing to announce this weekend a bid to challenge Blumenthal. To avoid a battle for the Republican nomination, Levy was considering taking a run at 4th District Democratic incumbent U.S. Rep. Jim Himes. The Greenwich Democrat and former

investment banker is seeking an eight term representing the Fairfield County district that counties to turn bluer and bluer. Republican hopes are rooted in a poll of Connecticut voters conducted by the National Republican Senatorial Committee. It revealed that Blumenthal's approval ratings are around 50%, significantly less than what the Greenwich Democrat has enjoyed since he was elected attorney general in 1990 and senator 20 years later. National Republicans find Blumenthal particularly irksome. If they are flush with cash and can spend some of it on a few long shots, a race against Blumenthal will tempt them. Their commitment will be strengthened if Levy commits a few million dollars of her own early in the year and uses her ties to national Republican donors to raise more. If Levy makes the jump, Blumenthal and some Republicans will paint contrasting pictures of the former commodities trader. Blumenthal will highlight Levy's devotion to Trump, who nominated her to be his ambassador to Chile. The Senate declined to confirm her before Biden was inaugurated. Trump Republicans (which is most of them) have begun circulating a 2016 anti-Trump opinion piece Levy wrote while supporting Jeb Bush for president. Blumenthal, who turns 76 in February, has never been defeated in 10 elections in



Former House Republican Leader Themis Klarides may be considering a run for the U.S. Senate seat held by Democrat Richard Blumenthal. **HARTFORD COURANT FILE**

38 years. As one of the wealthiest members of the Senate, Blumenthal has his own fortune to tap into, as he did in 2010 when self-financing Republican Linda McMahon gave Blumenthal some anxious weeks. A serious challenger to Blumenthal,

bolstered by the tangible support of national Republicans, may be an attempt to keep Democrats fighting on every front this year. It's also more proof that Biden needs a dramatic success — and the best place to achieve it is in brave Ukraine.



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COMMENTARY

How cryptocurrencies became the new subprime



Paul Krugman

If the stock market isn't the economy — which it isn't — then cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin really, really aren't the economy. Still, crypto has become a pretty big asset class (and yielded huge capital gains to many buyers); by last fall the combined market value of cryptocurrencies had reached almost \$3 trillion.

Since then, however, prices have crashed, wiping out around \$1.3 trillion in market capitalization. As of Thursday morning, Bitcoin's price was almost half-way down from its November peak. So who is being hurt by this crash, and what might it do to the economy?

Well, I'm seeing uncomfortable parallels with the subprime crisis of the 2000s. No, crypto doesn't threaten the financial system; the numbers aren't big enough to do that. But there's growing evidence that the risks of crypto are falling dispropor-

tionately on people who don't know what they are getting into and are poorly positioned to handle the downside.

What's this crypto thing about? There are many ways to make digital payments, from Apple Pay and Google Pay to Venmo. Mainstream payment schemes, however, rely on a third party — usually your bank — to verify that you actually own the assets you're transferring. Cryptocurrencies use complex coding to supposedly do away with the need for these third parties.

Skeptics wonder why this is necessary and argue that crypto ends up being an awkward, expensive way to do things you could have done more easily in other ways, which is why cryptocurrencies still have few legal applications 13 years after Bitcoin was introduced. The response, in my experience, tends to take the form of incomprehensible word salad.

Recent developments in El Salvador, which adopted Bitcoin as legal tender a few months ago, seem to bolster the skeptics: Residents attempting to use the currency find themselves facing huge transaction fees. Still, crypto has been effectively marketed: It manages both to seem futuristic and to appeal to old-style

goldbug fears that the government will inflate away your savings, and huge past gains have drawn in investors worried about missing out. But now crypto has crashed. Crypto is unlikely to cause an overall economic crisis. It's a big world out there, and even \$1.3 trillion in losses is only about 6% of U.S. gross domestic product, a hit that's an order of magnitude smaller than the effects of falling home prices when the housing bubble burst. And activities like Bitcoin mining, while environmentally destructive, are economically trivial.

Investors in crypto seem to be different from investors in other risky assets, like stocks, who consist disproportionately of affluent, college-educated whites. According to a survey by the research organization NORC, 44% of crypto investors are nonwhite, and 55% don't have a college degree. This matches up with anecdotal evidence that crypto investing has become remarkably popular among minority groups and the working class.

NORC says that this is great, that "cryptocurrencies are opening up investing opportunities for more diverse investors." But I remember the days when subprime mortgage lending was similarly celebrated

— when it was hailed as a way to open up the benefits of homeownership to previously excluded groups.

And cryptocurrencies, with their huge price fluctuations seemingly unrelated to fundamentals, are about as risky as an asset class can get. Now, maybe those of us who still can't see what cryptocurrencies are good for are just missing the picture. Maybe the rising valuation of Bitcoin and its rivals represents something more than a bubble, in which people buy an asset simply because other people have made money off that asset in the past. And it's OK for investors to bet against the skeptics.

But these investors should be people who are both well equipped to make that judgment and financially secure enough to bear the losses if it turns out that the skeptics are right. Unfortunately, that's not what is happening. And if you ask me, regulators have made the same mistake they made on subprime: They failed to protect the public against financial products nobody understood, and many vulnerable families may end up paying the price.

Krugman is a columnist for The New York Times.

Breyer's pragmatism will be missed

By Noah Feldman
Bloomberg Opinion

The news on Wednesday of Justice Stephen Breyer's retirement from the Supreme Court at the end of this blockbuster term marks an historical transition point.

One of the great pragmatists in the court's history, Breyer is the last of President Bill Clinton's appointees to still be serving. Only Justice Clarence Thomas, appointed by President George H.W. Bush in 1991, now remains from the centrist court that sat together for longer than any other configuration of justices in history.

That court was called the Rehnquist court for its chief justice, William Rehnquist, but it really reflected the judicial temperament shared by Breyer and Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. It was a body of nine that decided almost all major cases by finding five votes for a pragmatic consensus that lay somewhere between the aggressive liberalism of 1950s and 1960s and the incipient right-wing ascendance that is in evidence today.

Breyer's impending retirement after 28 years embodies the demise of the court's pragmatic personality, every bit as much as the likely decision to overturn the abortion-rights precedent *Roe v. Wade* this spring will signify the end of pragmatic jurisprudence in this historical era.

Breyer's pragmatism infused everything he did before becoming a justice. It infused his jurisprudence. And it is now infusing his decision to retire, which he took mindfully, with care and intentionality. Having recently published a pithy and powerful book arguing for the court's institutional authority to be protected and preserved, Breyer is stepping aside so that the bare Democratic Senate majority can ensure that he is replaced by a like-minded successor. Would that the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg had acted similarly.

To understand Breyer's pragmatism, the place to start is with his pre-judicial career as a law professor and public servant. Breyer's specialty was administrative law, but that arid description can obscure just how important his work was. Breyer's primary intellectual contribution was to help redefine his entire area of law into a study of regulation, defined broadly to include the ways the government determines not only private behavior but the quality of the air we breathe, the food we eat and the water we drink.

The recognition that the government, through regulation, exercises this tremendous power requires deciding how it should do so, and how the courts should supervise the process.



Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer, who will retire this summer, speaks Thursday in Washington. SARAHBETH MANEY/THE NEW YORK TIMES

For Breyer, the answer was that government regulators should make reasoned decisions using the tools of cost-benefit analysis. He didn't naively think that cost-benefit analysis always worked perfectly. (Indeed, Breyer is just about the least naive person I've ever met.) But as a pragmatist, he recognized that people make the best decisions when they take active steps to name and measure the possible effects of their actions, and consider where they might go wrong.

Pragmatic cost-benefit analysis isn't partisan. It's centrist, or is meant to be. Breyer worked on deregulation efforts as much as on regulation. As a lawyer for the Senate Judiciary Committee during the 1970s and 1980, he prized bipartisanship. He was, and is, proud of the bipartisan support he received when nominated for both the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court.

From Breyer's philosophy of pragmatic cost-benefit analysis it followed that courts should defer to the expertise of regulators who did their jobs well. A fluent French speaker with an abiding interest in the French administrative system, Breyer broadly believes that domain-specific expertise should be respected and that it leads to better outcomes. He was more than prepared to question regulators sharply about whether they had exercised reason. But if they did, he thought, the

right result was to respect their decisions.

As a justice, Breyer followed the pragmatic line that went back to Justices Louis Brandeis and Oliver Wendell Holmes in the first third of the 20th century. For them, as for him, the rule of law is strengthened when the justices police the rules of electoral politics but do not enter into the partisan fray. When insisting in recent years that the court is not a political body, Breyer never denied that the justices must make value judgments some of the time. His point was that justices should not be beholden to political parties or movements, but to their independent vision of the law.

In the Supreme Court's era of pragmatism, O'Connor often got to write the opinion that became law, but Breyer's fingerprints could frequently be seen on her centrist conclusions. Much of Breyer's greatest work came in his efforts to push the other justices to follow logic and reason, not intuition or ideology.

In countless oral arguments, Breyer posed complex hypothetical questions to all sides, demonstrating how his agile mind thought through hard problems. Not infrequently, he would answer his own questions as he went, displaying a rare kind of one-man-show, Socratic self-analysis. What was most salient in these moments was how seriously Breyer always took both sides of any challenging question. And

that this brilliant man found the process of trying to ascertain the law to be lots of fun.

The end of the era of the pragmatic Supreme Court, and the rise of a court riven by ideology, is already affecting how the institution is seen. Breyer has always had a hard time getting inside the heads of people who reason from abstract first principles rather than experience. His case for the Supreme Court to be treated as legitimate depends on the implicit assumption that it will act in such a way as to sustain its legitimacy.

Breyer will undoubtedly be on the sidelines cheering for the court to continue to act reasonably. The opinions that he will write in the next six months are almost certainly going to include important dissents. But they are unlikely to be rhetorically scathing. His style is to make calm, dispassionate, reasonable arguments for reasonable results.

For those critics of the court who think that it is necessarily ideological, Breyer's career should stand as a challenge. Here was a lawyer who evaluated cases with an eye to what works as much or more than what he might think was right. The pragmatic Supreme Court really did exist, once. We would do well to remember that in the months and years ahead.

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IRS identification demands smack of Big Brother

By Preston Brashers
The Heritage Foundation

Surveys find 81 percent of U.S. adults support voter ID requirements. Yet President Joe Biden recently condemned state election integrity laws that strengthen voter ID protections and ensure the accuracy of voter registration rolls as "Jim Crow 2.0." This supposed "threat to our democracy" is so grave that Biden equated those who support them with overt racists like Bull Connor and George Wallace.

But if the president thinks checking IDs and verifying voter rolls is racist, how can he condone the new IRS procedures requiring taxpayers to give a private company a copy of their government-issued photo ID — as well as their email address, phone number, Social Security Number and a video selfie taken with a smartphone or computer — before they can gain access to basic tax services on the IRS website?

Is Biden's IRS engaging in "Jim Crow 3.0"?

Actually, the IRS' demands of taxpayers smack more of dangerous Big Brotherism than racism. For example, if ID.me, the

Virginia-based company being entrusted with taxpayers' private information, is unable to verify users' identity with the information, users will then have to join a video call with a "trusted referee" to "answer a few questions."

ID.me will use the video selfies, which all users must provide, to collect biometric data, including voiceprints and facial geometry recognition. Taxpayers must sign a consent form for the company to collect this data, and the form allows ID.me to "reserve the right to change or modify this Biometric Consent."

Many taxpayers won't fully understand what information is being collected or how it will be used. How many people read all the consent forms they sign? Even if they do, taxpayers may have no choice but to consent if they need to access their online account, get their tax records, or update their child tax credit information.

Americans' ability to interact with government for basic tax services will be filtered through a secret private algorithm. All told, the new system will determine taxpayers' access to services that were used an estimated 60 million times last year. The IRS website also states that over

the next year, additional IRS applications will transition to the new system.

In other words, in the name of protecting taxpayer information, the IRS will compel even more taxpayers to give away extremely personal information to a private company.

The IRS has a poor track record of safeguarding taxpayer information. In June 2021, ProPublica, a left-leaning news organization that somehow received private tax documents, released a report leaking information on the tax records of dozens of the wealthiest taxpayers. Nobody has been held accountable for the apparent felonious data leak or data breach.

Making a private company a gatekeeper to certain taxpayer information hardly guarantees such information is safe from future leaks or breaches. In 2017, the personal information of 147 million Americans was exposed when Equifax experienced a data breach.

Also consider the difference between how state voting laws come about compared to the IRS' new procedures.

States that enact voter ID requirements or change other election laws must do so through the standard legislative process:

elected representatives passing laws that are subject to all the legal checks and balances.

Yet Biden's IRS will require taxpayer data to access basic tax functions with no new laws passed and no elected officials accountable for the change.

Which is more undemocratic? The Biden IRS has consistently sought more power. Last fall, the Treasury Department pushed to allow the IRS to track the bank transactions of virtually all Americans, but the effort stalled when it was met with public outcry.

In the case of the new facial recognition requirements, though, the IRS is acting outside the legislative process, flexing its own power by imposing new information-sharing requirements on taxpayers.

When agencies like the IRS exert the power to trample on taxpayer privacy, it exposes the ever-increasing power of the executive branch, a flaw in the functioning of our democratic republic. In Biden's words, "That's the kind of power you see in totalitarian states, not in democracies."

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**I asked what kind of family
Amina wanted. She said,
‘A family like yours.’ That’s
when I knew I had to adopt her.**

Denise, adopted 17-year-old Amina



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Hartford Courant

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Musical-theater creators flocking back to Goodspeed for annual retreat

By Christopher Arnott
Hartford Courant

Goodspeed Musicals' Johnny Mercer Writers Grove, an annual winter retreat where musical-theater creators work on new shows, will return to its in-person set-up this month after having to meet virtually last year because of the pandemic.

The Goodspeed is best known for its public performances at the Goodspeed Opera House in the summertime, but the theater is a

year-round enterprise dedicated to American musical theater in all its forms, from classics such as "Cabaret" and "42nd Street" (both of which are part of the 2022 Goodspeed season) to musicals that haven't been written yet. The Goodspeed partnered with the Johnny Mercer Foundation to create the Grove retreat a decade ago. Johnny Mercer was the lyricist whose hits included "Moon River," "Autumn Leaves", and "Ac-Cent-Tchu-Ate the Positive." His foundation is dedi-

cated to helping the careers of up-and-coming songwriters. At the Johnny Mercer Writers Grove, musical-theater composers and writers live and work together in some of the many small houses that the Goodspeed owns near the opera house. They meet regularly in yet another house to share their work and receive immediate feedback from peers, in a casual setting that resembles a salon or open

Turn to Retreat, Page 2



"Passing Through," shown in 2019, is one of hundreds of musicals that was developed in the first decade of the Goodspeed's Johnny Mercer Writers Grove, a winter retreat where 30 musical-theater creators are invited to work on new shows. The Grove returns to East Haddam in person this year after holding last year's gathering virtually. **DIANE SOBOLEWSKI**



Terry Burrell, left, and Shakirah DeMesier play the two stars of a fictitious play-within-in-a-play called "Naked Wilson," in Pearl Cleage's "Angry, Raucous and Shamelessly Gorgeous" at Hartford Stage through Feb. 6. **T. CHARLES ERICKSON**

THEATER REVIEW

BOLDLY FUNNY

'Angry, Raucous & Shamelessly Gorgeous' brings uplifting banter about age and female empowerment to Hartford Stage

By Christopher Arnott
Hartford Courant

With "Angry, Raucous & Shamelessly Gorgeous," the popular novelist, playwright, essayist and activist Pearl Cleage has written a much-needed play for women about women.

Not incidentally, Cleage has also added a worthy script to a distinguished subgenre of stage comedy: the aging-actor play. Hartford Stage is only the second theater to stage "Angry, Raucous & Shamelessly Gorgeous," following its 2019 premiere at the Alliance Theater in

Atlanta Georgia, where Cleage is the resident playwright. As both a statement of female empowerment in the performing arts and as a fine modern example of an aging-actor play, "Angry, Raucous & Shamelessly Gorgeous" is naturally packed with pithy statements and caustic one-liners. The show's first line, "What a dump!" evokes Bette Davis in "Beyond the Forest" and Elizabeth Taylor in "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" and that's the level of bravado Cleage is attempting to conjure. The fierce banter works because Cleage isn't afraid to have her characters actively challenge each other's assertions, because the arguments are worth having and because it's just plain funny and entertaining.

Terry Burrell, a versatile talent last seen on a Connecticut stage as Aunt Eller in "Oklahoma!" at the Goodspeed Opera

House, plays Anna Campbell, an internationally renowned artist returning from decades of performing strong classical female roles such as "Medea" and "Hedda Gabler" so that she can revive the radical protest piece that caused her to flee the United States for Europe 30 years earlier. The piece was called "Naked Wilson" and involved Campbell reciting monologues by male characters from the plays of August Wilson, in the nude, to point out that the most glorified African-American playwright of that time did not write great roles for women.

"Naked Wilson" is being done at a new feminist theater festival, but unbeknownst to Campbell, the festival's producer is planning to honor the actress but not let her perform that signature piece. She has instead enlisted a local performer named

Turn to Review, Page 3

COURANT ART PICKS FOR JAN. 30-FEB. 5

A lot of music and a little arsenic

By Christopher Arnott
Hartford Courant

Everyone's got a song to sing this week: A joint club tribute to the Grateful Dead and Bob Marley. ABBAmania stronger than ever. Marc Cohn walking in Connecticut. Glorified bar carousers The Choir of Man. A Sondheim classic. Here are your best bets for a week's entertainment.

Bettye's back

Bettye Lavette, one of the great blues and soul singers of our time, is at Infinity Hall, 32 Front St., Hartford, Jan. 30 at 8 p.m. \$38-\$48. Her latest album is 2020's "Blackbirds," which pays tribute to some of the female vocalists who influenced her. infinityhall.com.

Into Sondheim

Stephen Sondheim died in November. His shows have always been well represented in Connecticut, where he lived for decades, but they'll mean something different now. Curtain Call, 1349 Newfield Ave., Stamford, is doing one of the best-known Sondheims, the analytical fantasy "Into the Woods" Jan. 31 through Feb. 22. Performances are Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. Sunday at 2 p.m. \$35. curtaincall-inc.com.

Posehn in space

Brian Posehn is in the background of so many funny things it's like he's a living air freshener, adding his distinctive scent to sitcoms, comedy clubs, comic books, podcasts, video and role-playing games. The ubiquitous writer and performer brings his stand-up to the Space Ballroom, 295 Treadwell St., Hamden Feb. 2 at 8 p.m. \$25-\$30. spaceballroom.com.

Choir in a bar

The Choir of Man is a conceptual concert that creates professional entertainment out of the idea of fit young blokes having a laugh and bursting into song in a pub. These ordinary-seeming guys with extraordinary singing voices down pints and harmonize on classic rock songs and other tunes on a stage set that looks like a bar. Feb. 4 at 8 p.m. at the Shubert, 247 College St., New Haven. \$36-\$74. shubert.com.

Turn to Picks, Page 2



Blues/soul legend Bettye LaVette is at Hartford's Infinity Hall Jan. 30. **HANDOUT**

Connecticut museums and galleries offering exhibits

By Susan Dunne
Hartford Courant

Connecticut is rich with art galleries, museums and artists in all corners of the state, with gorgeous and engaging exhibits opening every week. Venues that are open to the public, as well as outdoor exhibits, are listed. Visit their websites for social distancing rules.

Hartford County

Amistad Center for Art & Culture, inside the Wadsworth Atheneum at 600 Main St.

in Hartford: "Changing Lanes: Mobility in Connecticut," a show of historic artifacts about the limitations of African Americans' mobility, is up until April 3. amis-tadcenter.org.

New Britain Museum of American Art, 56 Lexington St.: "Steel, String, Spit Bite: Selections from the LeWitt Collection" is up until March 18. "Walter Wick: Summer, Autumn, Winter and Happily Ever After" is up until April 1. "American Art in New Britain: The Evolution of the NBMAA" is up until Oct. 1. "Permanent Collection Installation: People and Places in America, 1960s to Today" is up until May

1. "Eva LeWitt" is up until Nov. 11, 2023. "The Poetry of Nature: Hudson River School Landscapes from the New-York Historical Society" is up to May 22. The Shantell Martin virtual reality space is now open. nbmaa.org.

Real Art Ways, 56 Arbor St. in Hartford: "A Dream Walking Anne Wu" is up until Feb. 6. "Naufragium: Kenny Martin" is up until Feb. 13. realartways.org.

Mark Twain House & Museum, 351 Farmington Ave. in Hartford: The historical home museum is open for small tours, by reservation only. marktwainhouse.org.

Main Street in Hartford: A stroll down Main Street provides ample artworks to view. In front of the library, there is a sculpture by David Hayes and a statue of Mark Twain. Between City Hall and Wadsworth Atheneum is Alexander Calder's massive red "Stegosaurus." In front of the Atheneum are a newly refurbished statue of Nathan Hale and sculptures by Conrad Shawcross, Tony Smith and William Turnbull. Across the street from the Atheneum is Carl Andre's "Stone Field Sculpture." Also across the street from the Atheneum is the Bushnell Towers sculpture garden.

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Exhibits

from Page 1

thewadsworth.org.

Galleries @ WORK SPACE, 903 Main St. in Manchester: “Perspectives of Home” will be on show to Feb. 25. workspacemanchester.com.

Art Gallery at University of Saint Joseph, 1678 Asylum Ave. in West Hartford: “Liliana Porter: Actualidades / Breaking News” is up to March 12. usj.edu/arts/art-museum.

West Hartford Art League, 37 Buena Vista Road: Up to Feb. 6: “Fill the Walls: Members Unjuried Exhibit” in the Clubhouse Gallery and “Three Perspectives: Photography by Danuta Gordon, Paul Osgood and Matt Zeller” in the Saltbox Gallery. westhartfordart.org.

Charter Oak Cultural Center, 21 Charter Oak Ave. in Hartford: “Painting OUtside the Lines: A Group Exhibition of Work by Paul Baylock, Christine Chaise Greenwood, Kimberly Heil & Lloyd Patrick Henry” is up until Feb. 24. charteroakcenter.org.

Trinity-on-Main, 69 Main St. in New Britain: “Foundation Paintings” by Paul Baylock, Nancy Brockett, Stanwyck Cromwell, Clinton Deckert, Katie Jurkiewicz, Tatyana Nadgor, Alex Ranniello, David Segerra and Margaret Wilson, celebrating the 150th anniversary of the city, will be on exhibit until March. happeninghere.org/fpp.

Clare Gallery at St. Patrick—St. Anthony Church, 285 Church St. in Hartford: “An Invitation to Respond: Creativity in the Time of COVID” will be up to Feb. 27. spsact.org.

ArtWalk at Hartford Public Library, 500 Main St.: “The Adornment Series: Images of Empowerment,” a show of work by Michelle Thomas, is up to Feb. 19. hplct.org.

Gallery on the Green, on the town green in Canton: “Gallery on the Green presents group show “Icebreaker” plus a solo show by Don Sexton to Feb. 5. galleryon-thegreen.org.

Windsor Art Center, 40 Mechanic St.: “Art from across the Tracks: A Celebration of our “Studios,” a show of work by Andres Chaparro, leeAnn Cogswell, Cathy Doocy, Michelle Hawran, JoeSam, Adam Lenz, Xarea Lockhart and Amy Hoffman, is up to March 5. windsorartcenter.org.

Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, 600 Main St. in Hartford: “Nevine Mahmoud / MATRIX 188” is up from Feb. 3 to May 1. thewadsworth.org.

Tolland County

William Benton Museum of Art, 245 Glenbrook Road at UConn in Storrs: “Facing History: Social Commentary in Contemporary American Art” is up until March 11.



Albert Bierstadt’s 1886 oil on canvas “Autumn Woods, Oneida County, State of New York” is part of the exhibit The Poetry of Nature: Hudson River School Landscapes from the New-York Historical Society at New Britain Museum of American Art. **ALBERT BIERSTADT**

benton.uconn.edu.

Homer Babbidge Library on the campus of UConn in Storrs: “Beth Pite, Colorsapes” is on view. “Vilde Chayes / Wild Things: Childhood Through the Eyes of Maurice Sendak” is up until March 31. lib.uconn.edu/about/exhibits/

Arts Center East, 709 Hartford Turnpike in Vernon: A fiber arts exhibit is up from Feb. 5 to 26. artscentereast.org.

Middlesex County

Spectrum Art Gallery, 61 Main St. in the Centerbrook section of Essex: “Concealment” runs to March 13. Artists include Diane Ward, Dina Belyayeva, Nancy Dudek, Darla DiRusso, Greg Murry, Gwendolyn Quezaire-Presutti, Regina Thomas, Lauren Mills, Elayne Marholin, Patricia Parente, Patricia Corbett, Ted Genard, Teri Glassman, Vincent Palladino, Stephanie Rogers, Ceal Swift, Claudia van Nes, Dan Dahlstrom, Diane Rubacha, Gloria Nilsson, Kearen Enright, Ned Farrell, Colleen Reilly, Maria Johnson, Maryann Flick, Michael Fanelli, Paul Essenfelf, Paul Ramsey and Robert Thomas. spectrumartgallery.org.

New London County

Hygienic Art Galleries, 79 Bank St. in New London: “Hygienic XLIII - Salon Des Independants,” the annual uninjured, uncensored free-for-all show, is up to Feb. 12. hygienic.org.

Mystic Seaport, 75 Greenmanville Road: “A Spectacle in Motion: The Grand Panorama of a Whaling Voyage ‘Round the World” will be up until March 27. mysticseaport.org/explore/exhibits.

Gilbert V. Boro Studio 80 + Sculpture Grounds, 80 Lyme St. in Old Lyme: The sculpture grounds, with works by Boro and other artists, is on private property but is open to the public. Boro asks guests not to enter any buildings. A YouTube video about the grounds, part of the Smithsonian Channel documentary series



“Nevine Mahmoud / MATRIX 188” is at Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art. **NEVINE MAHMOUD**

“America: Over the Edge,” can be seen at gilbertboro.com.

Lyme Art Association, 90 Lyme St. in Old Lyme: “First Impressions: Associate Artist Show” is up to Feb. 24. lymeartassociation.org.

LaGrua Center, 32 Water St. in Stonington: “Coming Out,” a show of work by LGBT artists, runs to Feb. 28. lagruacenter.org.

Chauncey Stillman Gallery at Lyme Academy of Fine Arts, 84 Lyme St. in Old Lyme: “Lennart Anderson: A Retrospective” will be up to March 18. lymeacademy.edu.

Lyman Allyn Art Museum, 625 Williams St. in New London: “Norman Ives: Constructions & Reconstructions” is up from . 29 to April 24. lymanallyn.org.

Fairfield County

Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, 258 Main St. in Ridgefield: “Karla Knight: Navigator” is up until May 8. aldrichart.org.

Center for Contemporary Printmaking in Mathews Park, 299 West Ave. in Norwalk: “A Show of Hands: Diane Cherr” and “Laissez le Bon Temps Rouler” are up until Feb. 20. contemprints.org.

Hollis Taggart Southport, 330 Pequot Ave: “Parallels: Chloë Lamb and Bill Scott” is up to Feb. 26. hollistaggart.com.

Loft Artists Association, 575 Pacific St. in Stamford: “Seven: New Year New Artists” is up to Feb. 6. The artist on show are Millie Jackson Rowe, Sandra Stadtmiller, Chris Hansen, Julie DiBaise,

Angels Grau, Almudena Fernandez Vicens and Erica Stoller. loftartists.org.

MoCA Westport, 19 Newtown Turnpike: “The Westport Idea,” featuring selected works from the Westport Public Art Collections, is up to March 12. mocawestport.org.

Fairfield University Art Museum, 200 Barlow Road in Fairfield: “Adger Cowans: Sense and Sensibility” is in the Bellarmine Hall Galleries to June 18. “Seeing is Believing: Crossings and Transpositions, Part II” is in the Walsh Gallery at the Quick Center for the Arts to March 5. The artists are He Jiancheng, Xiao Yao Ning, Luo Biwu, Zuo Zeng Yao and Zhang Zeng Min. At the same time, “ink/stone,” a show of 15 contemporary Chinese paintings and works on paper, will be on show. fairfield.edu/museum/

New Haven County

Palestine Museum US, 1764 Litchfield Turnpike, Suite 200, in Woodbridge: The museum is open by appointment only at palestinemuseum.us.

Gallery 53, 53 Colony St. in Meriden: “Ebony & Ivory: Black & White Mixed Media, with a splash of color” will be up from Feb. 4 to 24. gallery53.org.

New Haven Museum, 114 Whitney Ave.: “Strange Times: Downtown New Haven in the COVID Era,” “Children of the Elm City” and “Factory” are up until the end of winter. newhavenmuseum.org.

Kehler Liddell Gallery, 873



“Centaur,” a 1973 screen print by Norman Ives, is at Lyman Allyn Art Museum in New London. **NORMAN IVES**

Whalley Ave. in New Haven: “reflections,” a show of work by Liz Antle-O’Donnell, Ana Henriques and Mark St. Mary, is up to Feb. 6. kehlerriddell-gallery.com.

City Gallery, 994 State St. in New Haven: “Phantasmagoria: Ruth Sack” is up from Feb. 4 to 27. city-gallery.org.

Mattatuck Museum, 144 West Main St. in Waterbury: An American Lens: A History of Photography in Waterbury” is up until Dec. 31. “Janet Maya: Women/ Strength/Beauty” and “Focus on the Makers: Samplers, Needlework, and Quilts” are up to Feb. 28. “Mixmaster 2022: Juried Members Exhibition is up from Jan. 30 to March 16. mattmuseum.org.

Ely Center for Contemporary Art, 51 Trumbull St. in New Haven: Solo shows by Matthew Dercole, K Sar-rantonio and Gary Sczerbaniewicz are up until Feb. 20. Also until Feb. 20: Yale-China Association’s “Brilliant Boba,” with work by Kaitlin Fung, Zulynette Morales and Ying Ye, and “Hair @ Ely,” a show of work by Shereese Francis, Alana Ladson, Candace Leslie, Jennifer McCandless, Abigail Simon, Megan Shaughnessy, Yvonne Shortt and Christine Lee. tylerelycenter.org.

Susan Powell Fine Art, 679 Boston Post Road in Madison: “Valentine Gems,” a show of work by Kathy Anderson, Del-Bourree Bach, Patt Baldino, Paul Batch, Julie Beck, Paul Beebe, Peter Bergeron, Zufar Bikbov, Kelly Birkenruth, Dan Brown, David Dunlop, Eileen Eder, Jeff Erickson, Vincent Giarrano, Tom Hughes, Susan Josi-tas, James Magner, Anne McGrory, Leonard Mizerek, Larry Preston, Cindy Prociuous, Deborah Quinn-Munson, Jeanne Rosier Smith, Kyle Stuckey, Katie Swatland and George Van Hook, will be up from Feb. 4 to 28. susanpowellfineart.com.

Litchfield County

Washington Art Association, 4 Bryan Plaza in Washington Depot: Its 2022 members’ show will be up until Feb. 13. washingtonart-tassociation.org.

Craven Contemporary,

4 Fulling Lane in Kent: “In Conversation with David Shrigley,” an exhibit of work by Shrigley, Daniel Arsham, Susumu Kamijo, Deborah Kass, Alex Katz, Ryan McGinley, Alessandro Raho, Mickalene Thomas and William Wegman, is up until Feb. 13. artnet.com/galleries/craven-contemporary/artworks.

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St. in the Falls Village section of Canaan: “Colored pencil and pastel artworks by Marsha Altemus and assemblage and painting by Roger McKee” will be up to March 11. huntlibrary.org.

Furnace Art on Paper Archive, 107 Main St. in Falls Village: “Winter,” an exhibit of work by Jimbo Blachly, Bet-tina Blohm, Yvonne Estrada, Johnathan Fabricant, Greg Goldberg, Carter Hodgkin, Vincent Inconiglios, Erick Johnson, Amanda Konishi, Kathleen Kucka, Stephen Maine, Susan Martin, Georgia McGovern, Holly Miller, Nicholas Moenich, Marilla Palmer, Jean Parks, Gelah Penn and Sally Van Doren, is up until March 20, weekends only. furnace-artonpaperarchive.com.

Five Points Gallery, 33 Main St. in Torrington: “Wonderfully Tactile,” work by Becca Barolli, Adam Bernard, Ann Finholt, Mary Janacek, Stephen Maine, John Ralston V, Debra Weisberg and Margaret Wilson, is up to Feb. 12. fivepointsarts.org.

Windham County

The Art Gallery in the Fine Arts Instructional Center, Room 112, at Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St. in Willimantic: “Capturing the Ephemeral: Celebrating Theatre & Performance Media at Eastern,” is up until Feb. 18. easternct.edu/art-gallery.

Top Shelf Gallery at Fletcher Memorial Library, 257 Main St. in Hampton: “Visions & Memories,” paintings, drawings and collages by Donna O’Scolaigh Lange, is up until Feb. 28. fletcher-memoriallibrary.org.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

Retreat

from Page 1

mic event. Experienced playwrights and composers are on hand to mentor and assist the Grove residents, as are members of the theater’s music department. The Goodspeed also has a formidable library of musical theater scores, history books and other items.

This year’s retreat will feature its largest group in years — 30 participants working on 15 new musicals. Goodspeed Musicals says the Grove will follow strict COVID protocols.

For most of its 10-year history, the Grove has happened adjacent to another major winter-

time Goodspeed event, the Goodspeed Festival of New Musicals, which many of the Grove participants would attend before their retreat started. The festival, which offers readings of several new musicals-in-progress as well as talks with musical-theater writers, producers and historians, hasn’t been held since its 15th anniversary edition in January of 2020.

Among the musicals that were worked on in the first decade of the Johnny Mercer Grove are Michael R. Jackson’s “A Strange Loop,” which won the 2020 Pulitzer Prize for Drama after a successful off Broadway run in 2019, and is expected to be on Broadway this coming spring. The Goodspeed itself has

furthered the development of several Grove-born musicals by giving them full workshop productions at its Norma Terris Theatre in Chester, among them “Passing Through,” “Private Gomer Jones” and “Darling Grenadine.” The Judy Garland biomusical “Chasing Rainbows” was partially developed at the Johnny Mercer Grove and went on to have major productions at the Goodspeed Opera House and elsewhere.

Among this year’s Grove participants is the Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Jake Bernstein, whose book “Secrecy World: Inside the Panama Papers Investigation of Illicit Money Networks and the Global Elite” was made into the Steven Soderbergh film

“The Laundromat.”

Jonathan Brielle, executive vice president of the Johnny Mercer Foundation, serves as the retreat’s writer/producer in residence. Brielle’s credits range from doing the music and lyrics for the Broadway musical “Foxfire” to founding the streaming musical-theater playform Vala Musicals. The Grove’s resident dramaturg will once again be Clifford Lee Johnson III. Also attending as a producer in residence is Blair Russell, producer of Jeremy O. Harris’ landmark “Slave Play.” The Goodspeed’s artistic director Donna Lynn Hilton is also actively involved in the Grove.

This year’s other Grove participants are Melis

Aker, Avi Amon, Native American choreographer/performance artist Ty Defoe, writer/director/producer Nolan Doran, self-described “scholarartist” Dr. Amma Y. Ghartey-Tagoe Kootin, Alex Hare, Elliah Heifetz, Paul Hodge, jazz trumpeter Alphonso Horne, “Good Kids” playwright Naomi Iizuka, Jessica Kahkoska, Jesse L. Kearney, Jr., Zhailon Levinston (director of the recent Broadway play “Chicken and Biscuits” by Connecticut native and Johnny Mercer Grove alumnus Douglas Lyons), film/TV orchestrator Nevada Lozano, Peter Mills, Cheeyang Ng, Hayley Gene Penner, Kyle Puccia (co-author of the hit record “Kids in Love” by Kygo), TV’s

“Trickster” and “James-town” actor Kalani Queypo, Cara Reichel, Jorge Miguel Rivera-Herrans, Benjamin Scheuer, Rona Siddiqui, Eric Sorrels, Khalil Sullivan, Saudi Arabian performance artist Rotana Tarabzouni, Joshua Williams and Zack Zadek

Many of the participants are already recognized musical-theater talents who have already won significant awards and developmental grants for some of their work.

You can find a list of the writers, their projects and their bios at goodspeed.org/special-programs/jmf-writers-grove

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnett@courant.com.

Picks

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Walking in Hartford

Connecticut native Marc Cohn hit it big with a song set in Tennessee, “Walking in Memphis.” That classic got a lift from a “Saturday Night Live” bit titled “Walking in Staten” last

year. Cohn’s homecomings are always special. He’s at Infinity Hall, 32 Front St., Hartford, Feb. 4 at 8 p.m. \$50-\$75. infinityhall.com.

Contact highs

The bands High Tide (who specialize in a certain Jamaican reggae icon) and Sticky Greens (who play sounds associated with Jerry Garcia, Bob Weir, et

al.) join forces for a “Dead Meets Marley” night Feb. 4 at 9 p.m. at Arch Street Tavern, 85 Arch St., Hartford. archstreettavern.com.

Arsenic in the elderberry wine

“Arsenic and Old Lace” is one of the most popular plays of the 20th century, about lovable senior citi-

zens who enjoy poisoning people. They’re not the only quirky characters in Joseph Kesselring’s 1941 play, which also features a normalized romantic subplot. Cary Grant starred in the 1944 movie version. Little Theatre of Manchester takes a peek in the spooky Brewster family basement Feb. 4-20 at Cheney Hall, 177 Hartford Road, Manchester. Perfor-

mances are Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. \$20 and \$27. cheneyhall.org.

ABBAMANIA anew

With Swedish pop deities ABBA actually getting back together last year after decades apart and releasing a new album in their classic

style, how will that effect all the ABBA tribute acts? Find out Feb. 5 at 8 p.m. when one of the top tributes, ABBAMANIA, croons “I do I do I do I do” and the band’s other polyester hits at the Palace, 100 East Main St., Waterbury. \$39-\$60. palacetheaterct.org.

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnett@courant.com.

Documentaries resurrect lost eras of music

Subject, style differ widely in Sundance film fest premieres

By Jake Coyle
Associated Press

Can a music scene still develop the way grunge did in 1990s Seattle or hip-hop did in the Bronx in the 1970s? Or has the digital makeover of music made such geographical-based explosions obsolete? It's a question that hovers over the Sundance Film Festival documentary "Meet Me in the Bathroom," a vivid and sham-bolic time capsule of early 2000s New York when bands like the Yeah Yeah Yeahs, TV on the Radio, the Strokes, Interpol and LCD Soundsystem made the city — and Brooklyn in particular — one the last easily identifiable hotbeds of rock music.

The film, which recently debuted at Sundance, is directed by Dylan Southern and Will Lovelace, and adapted from Lizzy Goodman's book, "Meet Me in the Bathroom: Rebirth and Rock and Roll in New York City 2001-2011." Focusing mainly on the first handful of those years, the documentary is an ode to an already far-gone era when a wave of bands revitalized New York's music scene, capturing the gritty romance of the city. Brief interludes of news footage hint at a broader digital narrative forming largely outside the scene's bubble: Y2K fears, the onset of Napster, the introduction of the iPod.

"One of the things we kept asking is: Is it even possible for a scene to emerge in one place with such intensity?" Southern said in a recent interview. "Now the way we consume music is different, the way we listen or even make music is different. The Guardian newspaper, when they reviewed the book, they described it as a



Lilas Mayassi, left, and Shery Bechara appear in "Sirens," a documentary by Rita Baghdadi. RITA BAGHDADI/SUNDANCE INSTITUTE

flashbulb moment before everything changed."

"Everything is so democratized and spread out," adds Lovelace. "People don't seem to buzz around music the way they once did."

At Sundance, though, there is always buzz around music documentaries. At last year's virtual festival, Questlove's "Summer of Soul (or ... The Revolution Will Not Be Televised)," which documented the 1969 Harlem Cultural Festival, was arguably the festival's biggest breakout hit. This year's Sundance, which also happened virtually, abounds in music documentaries. Among this year's crop is the first film of a three-part Netflix documentary on Ye (formerly Kanye West), "jeen-yuhs," and the Sinead O'Connor doc "Nothing Compares."

The debuting films differ widely in subject and style, but they each resurrect a musical past that feels very distant from our present.

In the first part of "jeen-yuhs," which debuts in February on Netflix, a not-yet-famous Ye is struggling to score a record deal, selling beats and yearning for the kind of ubiquity that has followed for him, more or less nonstop, since his 2004 debut album, "The College Dropout." His hustle is all-consuming, as is his confidence. "Even me doing this documentary, it's a little narcissistic or whatever," Ye says in a self-reflective moment that now seems prophetic.

But there are also tender scenes in the film, directed by Coodie and Chike, that speak to what propelled Ye in the first place — like the touchingly sweet support of his late mother, Donda. She's the most encouraging of mothers, rapping along to her son's lyrics and telling him, "You play tracks the way Michael Jordan shoots free throws."

Such a maternal relationship never existed for O'Connor, who speaks about the abuse she suffered from her mother

in Kathryn Ferguson's "Nothing Compares." To many, O'Connor has been largely reduced to a caricature — that fiery bald Irish singer who tore up an image of the pope on "Saturday Night Live." But "Nothing Compares," by laying out O'Connor's life — which she discusses in off-camera interviews heard through the film — gives O'Connor's music and career the depth it deserves by tracing the pain that drove it. She was just 20, and pregnant, when her 1987 debut album came out.

And from the start, O'Connor was outspoken on a wide range of issues, from the Catholic Church she had been schooled under, to the Grammy Awards' ghettoizing of rap. Sometimes her protests came with self-aggrandizement, but you can't watch "Nothing Compares" and not think that O'Connor's rage came from a genuine place. And the intervening years, which have seen much uncovered about

long-concealed abuse by Catholic priests, have cast her criticisms in a different light.

"I was always being crazied by the media, made out to be crazy," she says in film. But the abuse of children by priests, she says: "That was crazy."

"Nothing Compares" suggests O'Connor, in speaking out the way she did, was ahead of her time. Yet the documentary stays largely in the past, effectively ending in the mid-'90s and not following O'Connor's life since her brief mega-stardom.

Rita Baghdadi's "Sirens" is set against a recent past and a more tumultuous political backdrop. It is, without a doubt, the most compelling portrait of a female Lebanese thrash metal band you've ever seen. But it's also a clear standout at Sundance and far more than a novelty act. In a documentary genre that can easily slide into cliché, "Sirens" exists in another world. Its characters, the members of

the Beirut-based Slave to Sirens, are wrestling with more extreme issues than most black-clad, tattoo-covered bands confront. For them, freedom of speech battles and LGBTQ rights blur with power chords.

It's a classic tale of band dynamics, too, focusing largely on the friendship and disagreement of Lilas Mayassi and Shery Bechara, the band's two guitarists. Their squabbles sometimes sound like those of any band. But on other occasions, resistance on stage and off joins in harmony. In one scene, Mayassi and Bechara meet and converse on a sidewalk, only to be engulfed by a marching protest, which they casually join.

Southern and Lovelace made "Meet Me in the Bathroom" (the title comes from a Strokes song) mostly during the pandemic. Though they always intended to focus largely on archival footage, the circumstance led them to keep the film entirely in its period, without the modern-day reflections of talking heads. Instead, "Meet Me in the Bathroom" captures the feeling of limitless potential — of seemingly born-to-perform singers like Karen O and Julian Casablancas making their first steps onto a stage. The directors considered each thread a coming-of-age story.

"In a weird way, COVID helped us because in lockdown, people had time on their hands, and they were happy to climb into the attic or go into their storage unit and find these things that had been there for 20 years," says Southern. "What we didn't want to do was make a typical behind-the-music rock-doc where you have talking head interviews with the bands 20 years later, and it really takes you out of the time. We wanted as much as possible to situate the audience back in that time."



"Angry, Raucous and Shamelessly Gorgeous" never changes location from its lush, \$500-a-night Atlanta hotel room. Pictured are, from left, Terry Burrell, Cynthia D. Barker, Shakirah DeMesier and Marva Hicks. T. CHARLES ERICKSON

Review

from Page 1

"Pete" Watson who's best known as a stripper and adult film actress.

"You're a porn star?," Campbell says disdainfully when she has a tense sit-down with Pete. "I'm not a star, but I work regular," Pete replies. She is largely unfamiliar with Wilson's plays and has her own ideas about how to critique his inadequacies as a playwright.

Cleage sets us up for verbal fireworks and delivers. There's a worthy antagonism here. Anna is self-absorbed, comfortable with the career adulation she's received and poised to put down anyone who challenges her, including her long-suffering manager and partner Betty (neatly underplayed by Marva Hicks so that Burrell can prance all the more mightily). Pete is younger, hungrier and has an awareness of public

performance that extends beyond the insular, self-congratulatory world of legit theater.

The debate is so strong that it doesn't matter that other areas of the play aren't. "Angry, Raucous & Shamelessly Gorgeous" could add the words "sloppily plotted" to its title. The idea that an actress would be unclear that she was performing at a festival up until the night before it premieres defies all credulity, and there are "Wait, what?" moments like that throughout the play.

But needing the story details to make sense is far from the point. These characters, and these situations are meant to spark dialogues, and they do.

Although not everything in "Angry, Raucous & Shamelessly Gorgeous" rings true, the crucial things do. "Naked Wilson" sounds exactly like any number of the icon-topping performance pieces of the 1980s and '90s,

particularly the nude aspect. Anna and Betty's relationship, both personal and professional, feels familiar. Cynthia Barker as festival producer Kate balances an impulse for empathy with the needs of all her investors, audiences and artists.

Above all, the play offers debates worth having: about self-worth, about stretching one's talents, about facing new challenges or finding the right time to step back from them and pay attention to the people closest to you. It's about both trail-blazing and torch-passing.

These heavy subjects are handled seriously but lightheartedly. The play is a short, intermissionless 100 minutes and never changes location from its lush, \$500-a-night Atlanta hotel room (scenic design by Collette Pollard), but Cleage fills it with descriptive visions of radical performance art, soul-stirring classical dramas and even the image of a Black

woman in a red ballgown orating from the roof of "Gone With the Wind" novelist Margaret Mitchell's home.

The diverse, multi-generational audience at the Sunday matinee ate up all the angry outbursts, raucous comedy and gorgeous imagery. Like many of Cleage's other works, this play is touching nerves, bringing joy, asking the right questions at the right time, and charting a course of hope and change.

"Angry, Raucous & Shamelessly Gorgeous" runs through Feb. 6 at Hartford Stage, 50 Church St., Hartford. Performances are Tuesday through Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. with added matinees on Jan. 26 and Feb. 5. No performances on Feb. 1 and 2. \$30-\$100. hartfordstage.org.

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnett@courant.com.

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Skateboarders at Parque Lira Skatepark on Jan. 8 in Mexico City. With improved governmental support, skateboarding has taken flight in Mexico. ALICIA VERA/THE NEW YORK TIMES PHOTOS

A skateboarder’s paradise

Mexico City has quickly become a top destination for the activity

By Madeleine Connors
The New York Times

MEXICO CITY — One year ago, Carolina Altamirano left her home in Oaxaca City, Mexico, where she had been skateboarding for nine years, in search of opportunities to grow her skateboarding career.

In years past, this would have meant relocating to Los Angeles, New York City or even Barcelona, Spain. Instead, Altamirano moved to Mexico City.

“There’s a lot of skate parks, and they’re building more,” she said of the city, which has quickly become an international destination for the sport and an incubator for an impressive roster of athletes as the skateboarding scene blooms. “The skateboarding community is strong here. If you come across someone you don’t know who is carrying a skateboard, they will greet you and talk to you.”

Among them is Itzel Granados, one of the highest-ranked skateboarders in the country and somewhat of a local celebrity in Mexico City skate parks. In November, Granados, 20, finished in second place at the Junior Pan American Games women’s street competition. Before that, she placed third in the renowned Exposure skateboarding contest. She hopes to qualify for the 2024 Paris Olympics, the second time skateboarding will be in the Games.

When Granados began skating, there weren’t any skateboarding schools in the area. Now, she’s in good company. Women-led skateboarding schools like Mujeres en Patineta

(Women on Skateboards) are emerging in the city, offering classes to girls of all ages from low-income backgrounds.

“The skateboarding scene is centralized in Mexico City, a city that is home to the best skate parks in our country,” Mariana Muñoz, the director of Mujeres en Patineta, said. “The social openness that exists here, as well as the women’s movement, have allowed women’s skate to grow in an unprecedented way.”

The city’s newfound status as a skateboarding paradise was hard won. Olga Aguilar, who has been documenting the skateboarding scene in Mexico City since the 1980s, said accessibility was an early obstacle. “The first problem was that it was hard to find a skateboard,” she said. “There wasn’t a skate shop. If you knew someone going to the States, you would give them money so they could bring it back. It was also expensive at the time.”

For women, skateboarding also carried a stigma that Aguilar and others have been slowly dismantling. The sport was seen as inherently male, so it was frowned on for women to participate, she said.

“We had to hide our skateboards because our mom didn’t want us to skate,” Aguilar said. “There was not a skate park at the time. In the late 1970s, there were no places to go and learn. It had to be on the street.”

The Mexican government started building skate parks in the 1980s in an effort to restore public spaces, and the tide shifted in the decades



Itzel Granados is one of Mexico’s highest-ranked skateboarders and somewhat of a celebrity in skate parks.

that followed. The scene is becoming increasingly diverse.

“The atmosphere changed when availability and skate shops were opening. Nowadays, there’s access for everyone to get a skateboard, and it’s not looked at as it was before,” Aguilar said.

Last year, Mexican skater Oscar Meza returned to Mexico City after spending most of his adult years skateboarding professionally in Los Angeles. “This city is providing a real raw new generation of people really enjoying skateboarding. I felt like I was losing that in a way.”

As a teenager in Los Angeles, Meza felt some discomfort from being a Mexican skateboarder.

“They thought we were like weirdos. Like you’re doing a white kid sport.” But as he has grown older, he’s watched the sport become embraced and flourish in his community. “Now it’s like you’re not cool if you don’t skate,” he said.

The architecture and idiosyncratic building styles in Mexico City make for thrilling skateboarding terrain, Meza said, though, like elsewhere, police and security guards sometimes intervene.

“In Los Angeles, you go to a spot, and the handrails are the exact same size. Everything is so regulated. That doesn’t exist here,” he said.

As the skateboarding scene grows in Mexico City, so, too, does international interest. It has

become a travel destination for skateboard enthusiasts, professional athletes and sponsors alike. In 2014, Nike Skateboarding, in conjunction with the Mexican government, built an Aztec-inspired skate park to promote access to young skateboarders in the city. In early December, Vans built a flagship skate park and event space in the Mixcoac neighborhood of Mexico City.

Granados is at the forefront, even if she hit a speed bump in the past year. Last summer, in qualifying in Rome for the Tokyo Olympics, she fell and lost her chance. “I hit my head,” she said. “Three medics told me: ‘You can’t compete. You can’t do this.’ And that was it.”

The setback has not slowed her down. She is keeping pace with the growth of her sport in Mexico City, where there is increasing industry interest and government support beyond grassroots efforts. Granados hopes to skate for years to come, until, she said: “I break my knees and really can’t do it anymore. Until then, I will keep skating.”

And she will have more places to train, alongside a growing community of skaters like Altamirano.

“I love it,” Granados said of training in Mexico City. “It has parks for beginners to skate and intermediate and advanced levels. I think that’s what makes a skate park perfect, no? When it’s for everyone.”

One city unveils new tourism campaign ahead of Black History Month

By Lacey Pfalz
TravelPulse

Experience Montgomery, the official destination marketing organization for Montgomery, Alabama, has launched its new tourism campaign ahead of Black History Month, “The Journey Starts Here,” with the aim of promoting the city as the birthplace of the civil rights movement.

The campaign includes place markers across the city featuring quotes from

famous civil rights activists, along with QR codes linking to a website about the location and suggestions of what to visit next. Sidewalk stickers will soon be implemented in some places with the same focus.

Colors and geometric shapes also highlight the website and the newly relocated Montgomery Visitor Center, which is located in One Court Square. Visitors to the Visitor Center can take advantage of the new City Ambassador

Program, in which locals provide insights into the area’s historical landmarks, such as the Freedom Riders Museum or the Rosa Parks Bus Stop.

“Montgomery’s story as the birthplace of the civil rights movement resonates with the world,” said Ashley Jernigan, Executive Director of Destination Montgomery. “As people continue to seek purposeful and meaningful travel experiences, Montgomery continues to deliver

thought-provoking cultural and civil rights experiences that remind us of how far we have come and inspire us to continue fighting for change.

“With this campaign, education and inspiration have never been more accessible to Montgomery visitors as they can now interact with the sites of some of our country’s most profound events.”

For information about Montgomery, visit <https://exploremgm.com>.



A sign marks Rosa Parks’ bus stop in downtown Montgomery, Alabama. DREAMSTIME/TNS

Visiting Cold War memories in Budapest



Rick Steves

Back in the 1980s, on a train heading for Budapest, I stood in the aisle with my elbows on the edge of an open window, enjoying the moonlit countryside rushing by. I was soon joined by a Czech woman who was doing the same thing. She told me she was on her first trip out of her country. I asked her if she was excited about visiting Budapest. She said she was most excited about eating a McDonald's hamburger. The buzz throughout Eastern Europe was that Hungary had just opened a branch of the American chain.

If communism was a religion during the Cold War, Budapest was Eastern Europe's sin city, offering tourists from communist countries a taste of the decadent West: rock concerts, Adidas sports gear, and the first McDonald's east of the Iron Curtain.

Back then, eating a Big Mac was an act of defiance. There was nothing fast or cheap about Western "fast food." A Happy Meal was a splurge. People traveling from other communist countries to Hungary waited in lines that stretched around the block for a burger, fries and a Coke. Ronald McDonald stood on the street corner like a heretic prophet, cheering on the downtrodden proletariat, while across the street, wannabe capitalists drooled over window displays featuring running shoes that cost two months' wages.

As I visit Budapest today, it's clear that the younger generation of Eastern Europeans has no memory of the communist era. Enough time has passed



Budapest's House of Terror was long the headquarters of communist Hungary's secret police. CAMERON HEWITT/RICK STEVES' EUROPE

that former Warsaw Pact nations can take an honest look at the period.

My first stop on this trip is the House of Terror, long the headquarters of communist Hungary's secret police. When the Communists moved into Budapest after World War II, their secret police took over the Nazis' secret police headquarters. It was here that Hungarians suspected of being "enemies of the state" were given sham trials, tortured, and routinely executed. The museum's atrium features a Soviet tank and a vast wall plastered with portraits of victims. Exhibits cover gulag life, Social Realist art and propaganda. A labyrinth built of pork-fat

bricks reminds old-timers of the harsh conditions in the 1950s, when lard on bread was the standard dinner.

I enter the elevator to continue into the museum. As it slowly descends, a guard on video explains the execution process. When the door opens, I step into the basement chambers of torture and death. In 1956, the blood was hosed away and this cellar was made a clubhouse for the local communist youth club. In the museum today, it has been restored to its condition circa 1955, with chilling prison cells instead of Ping-Pong tables and chess sets.

In the museum's poignant finale, the "walls

of victimizers" are lined with the photos and biographical information of members and supporters of both the Nazi and communist secret police — many of whom are still living and were never brought to justice. The House of Terror must be a particularly powerful experience for elderly Hungarians who actually knew many of the victims of the secret police ... and who remain neighbors of the victimizers.

When regimes fall, so do their monuments. Across Eastern Europe, statues of Stalin, Lenin, and their local counterparts came crashing to the ground. In Budapest, these stony reminders of communist tyranny are collected

in Memento Park, where tourists flock to get a taste of the communist era. I head over for a lesson in Social Realism, the art of communist Europe. Under the communists, art wasn't just censored. It was acceptable only if it furthered the goals of the state. Aside from a few important figureheads, individuals didn't matter. Statues featured the generic working man or working woman. Everyone was a cog in the machine — unquestioning servants of the nation.

Wandering through Memento Park, I'm entertained by the jumbled collection of once fearsome and now almost comical statues. While they seem

to preach their ideology to each other, locals and tourists take funny photos mocking them. The gift shop hawks a fun parade of communist kitsch. I pick up a Stalin vodka flask and a CD featuring 20 patriotic songs — the Greatest Hits of Communism. It occurs to me that Stalin — whose estate gets no royalties for all the merchandise featuring his dour mug — must be spinning in his communist grave.

Rick Steves (www.ricksteves.com) writes European travel guidebooks and hosts travel shows on public television and public radio. Email him at rick@ricksteves.com and follow his blog on Facebook.

CELEB TRAVELER

Brice wishful for more traveling

By Jae-Ha Kim
Tribune Content Agency

Charles Brice portrays a CIA hacker in the new Netflix spy series, "In From the Cold." He describes his character as "trustworthy, loyal, unafraid to speak his mind and he loves his momma dearly." As for himself in real life, Brice said he's "as skilled in technology as any millennial who grew up during the time of Myspace and AOL Instant Messenger. Chris, on the other hand, is not only a highly skilled hacker — he is one of the best, which is exactly why Chauncey (Cillian O'Sullivan) conscripts his services." The Brooklyn resident will also be seen in the third season of Showtime's "City on a Hill."

Q: Have you ever traveled to a place that made you feel like you were in a spy novel?

A: Shooting "The Survivor" in Hungary was my first time traveling to Eastern Europe. One day, I took a trip with a few locals I had met to this old abandoned Soviet military base miles outside of Budapest. As I stepped through the supposedly haunted ruins of these buildings and rooms, I couldn't help but feel the presence of lives past lived. It thoroughly possessed the historic beauty and eerie mystery of places described in spy novels.

Q: If you had to cancel travel plans due to the pandemic, where were they to?

A: Interestingly enough, we were supposed to



Actor Charles Brice said his travel bucket list includes Nigeria, Ethiopia and Egypt. CHRISTOPHER FENIMORE

begin shooting our Netflix series, "In From the Cold," in March 2020. I had flown out to Spain and already spent a week doing preproduction when the country went into lockdown. We were sent back to the U.S. without having begun shooting. Not only that, I got COVID-19 in Spain — the OG COVID before the variants. But I didn't want to be hospitalized, because there were many elderly people who desperately needed it. It was truly a terrifying experience, because I was extremely sick and no one really knew much about COVID then. My next project filmed in New York. I thought, "That's a relief." And then omicron showed up. So, with all that being said, I'm sure I will continue to travel for work and this pandemic will soon be behind us. Wishful thinking? I hope not.

Q: What's the most important thing you've learned from traveling?

A: We're all more similar to each other than we think. Despite a great number of governing bodies, belief systems and differences that may divide us, there is an undeniable common thread to humanity, which becomes more evident the more I travel.

Q: What is your best or worst vacation memory?

A: It was Christmas Eve and I was driving to my Airbnb after an evening out having dinner. Two men on a motorcycle pulled me over. I had actually read about this happening to other tourists, but had never expected to encounter it. They said I was driving while looking at my cellphone (which I wasn't) and that I would have to pay a fine. Then they said the station was closed and I would have to go with them to a bank and take out money to give to them directly. After I told them I was very uncomfortable with that idea, they asked me how much money was in my wallet. I took a moment and looked very hard at them, their uniforms, the guns in their holsters and the bike with the lights flashing. I told them that I only had a few thousand pesos and they commenced to taking all of it and sent me on my way. This whole interaction took place without a word of English being spoken. Honestly, I was impressed at how well I was able to speak Spanish while fearing for my life.

For more from the reporter, visit www.jaehakim.com.

TRAVEL TROUBLESHOOTER

Help! My Expedia tour credit is about to expire

By Christopher Elliott
King Features Syndicate

Q: I booked a hotel stay at the Opus XVI in Bergen, Norway, in 2020 through Expedia. The hotel was part of a package. I had to cancel the trip because of COVID-19.

Expedia refunded our airfare and issued a \$1,875 credit for Opus XVI that expires in December 2021. Norway has been closed to U.S. travelers, so we have been unable to use the credit.

I called and requested an extension or refund from Expedia. A representative told me that they would contact the hotel on our behalf, but we needed to deal directly with the hotel for a resolution. Expedia said it had already sent the \$1,875 to the Opus XVI.

I emailed the hotel last summer, and I received an email reply that it denied my request. Instead, the hotel offered a 50% discount if we booked a future stay directly.

I have emailed Expedia, sharing the hotel's denial of our request, and asked for their help in securing an extension. We have not received any response from Expedia. I understand that this was a nonrefundable reservation, yet since our stay was canceled through no fault of our own and we can't visit Norway, we believe our credit should be extended. It is unfair to pay for a stay we are unable to take. Can you help?
— Kent York, St. Paul, Minnesota

A: The Opus XVI shouldn't pocket your money. Expedia should have helped you get either a refund or an extension.

Your trip to Norway was part of a tour package that included airline tickets and accommodations. Technically, that makes Expedia your tour operator, and it bears some responsibility in making sure all the components are in order and usable. Expedia is also your travel agent and, as such, should be taking care of you — especially during a difficult time like this.

Telling you that you had to deal directly with the Opus XVI was simply wrong. A good travel agent and tour operator takes responsibility for the products it sells. Expedia fell short of that.

I understand that Expedia had already paid the hotel, but that's not your problem. And I also know that the rules say you can't get a refund.

But these are unusual circumstances, and companies like Expedia and its hotel partners have invoked that time and again during the pandemic. You can, too.

I would have sent a brief, polite email to an executive at Expedia. I list the names, numbers and email addresses of the Expedia customer service managers on my consumer advocacy site, Elliott.org. Calling doesn't make a lot of sense because you won't have a record of the conversation. You need written proof that you've tried to resolve this

through the right channels.

Companies should not be able to pocket your money at a time like this. You may want to give your business to a travel agent or a tour operator — as opposed to an online agency — that will fight for you during an extraordinary circumstance.

I contacted Expedia on your behalf. The company agreed to extend your hotel voucher by a year.

Christopher Elliott is the chief advocacy officer of Elliott Advocacy, a nonprofit organization that helps consumers resolve their problems. Elliott's latest book is "How To Be The World's Smartest Traveler" (National Geographic). Contact him at elliott.org/help or chris@elliott.org.

CELEBRITIES

Costello rocks out from back porch

By David Bauder
Associated Press

Elvis Costello's 32nd album rings with the sound of a tight rock 'n' roll combo sweating together on a tiny stage, feeding off each other to produce a joyful noise.

Yet that's all a mirage. Costello and his three-piece band, the Imposters, were never in the same city, much less the same room, as they made "The Boy Named If," which was recently released. They were waiting out the coronavirus, like everyone else, and looking to do something productive.

After writing, Costello would make an initial recording of a song with his vocals and guitar at his home in Vancouver. He would send it to Pete Thomas, who retreated to his basement in Los Angeles to add drums. Bass player Davey Faragher was next, before it was sent to keyboard wizard Steve Nieve in France. Nicole Atkins added guest vocals on the song, "My Most Beautiful Mistake," from a fifth location.

Occasionally they would jerry-rig a FaceTime connection so they could look at each other, although that wasn't conducive to recording because of delays in each connection.

Producer Sebastian Krysz, from his own home, "did a terrific job in making it sound not like it was something made with a construction kit," Costello said.

"I think everybody surprised themselves how we found ourselves in our basement or spare room playing and it sounded so vibrant," he said. "We didn't let that hold us back. When we found out that it worked, it just spurred us on."

When the weather was good in Vancouver,



Musician Elvis Costello recently released his 32nd album, "The Boy Named If." MATT LICARI/INVISION 2018

British Columbia, Costello set up on his back porch, "which conjures up a much more laid-back sound than this record," the singer said.

Indeed, "The Boy Named If" crackles with energy, virtually all up-tempo songs driven by guitar. The arrangements demand a lot from Costello's voice, and the underrated Thomas delivers some of his best drumming on record.

In the album's liner notes, the band offers "special thanks from these lousies to our spouses for letting us make all this racket around the houses."

The disc's title song provides a loose thematic frame to the collection of songs, creating the image of a child's imaginary friend if that extended into adulthood.

"I was drawing comparisons to the excuse that a child makes — 'Oh, it was my imaginary friend

that broke that,'" he said. "In the case of a child, it's usually a cup or a vase, instead of a heart or some vow you've made."

Costello, 67, has been busy during the pandemic. "The Boy Named If" is his third release in 14 months, following the "Hey Clockface" album and "Spanish Model," where Spanish-language singers replaced his vocals on his 1978 album "This Year's Model." He also released an EP of French versions of some "Hey Clockface" songs.

Jan. 30 birthdays: Actor Gene Hackman is 92. Actor Vanessa Redgrave is 85. Singer Jeanne Pruett is 85. Musician Phil Collins is 71. Actor Charles S. Dutton is 71. Actor Ann Dowd is 66. Comedian Brett Butler is 64. Actor Wayne Wilderson is 56. Actor Christian Bale is 48. Actor Olivia Colman is 48. Actor Wilmer Valderrama is 42.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson
askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Bad babysitter comes so husband can sleep in

Dear Amy: I can't stand my mother-in-law. I think she is a terrible person.

All she does is gossip, make herself out to be the hero in every situation, and judge others.

She was a terrible mother to her children (her daughter is estranged from her). The only reason my husband keeps her around is because she's "family." He has told me on multiple occasions that he doesn't like her, but that he has to love her.

Regardless, she comes over once or twice a week, which in my opinion is way too often, but it's when I'm working, and my husband wants to sleep in.

She will sit on the couch and scold my kids whenever they make noise or want to play.

Then she goes around bragging about what a great grandmother she is and how she has to come over because I'm "too busy to be a mother."

I have never once asked her to come sit with the kids. It's just so frustrating because I'm the one constantly getting judged for everything, while my husband gets to sleep in and not do anything around the house.

I really don't want her to come over so often, but anytime I bring it up to my husband, it starts an argument. What can I do?

— Upset

Dear Upset: You don't mention what work your husband does, but unless he works a night shift, he should get out of bed in the mornings in order to take care of his children. This is what good parents do. Otherwise, it would look as if your husband is "too

sleepy to be a father."

If your husband is so devoted to his mother that he needs to see her twice a week, then instead of using her as a babysitter, he should take the children over to her place for visits.

Generally, you should assume that anyone listening to your mother-in-law vent will see through her obvious bias. Push back only when you must, but otherwise — disengage.

Dear Amy: Most of my friends have retired very comfortably. I am not able to retire.

These retired friends have now started traveling a lot and will either group text, post on Facebook, or email pictures of their vacations, the restaurants they're eating at, the lovely hotels they're staying at, and the plays and concerts they're attending.

I really don't want to see their gorgeous vacations and fabulous lives.

I don't want to hear that it's 80 degrees where they are, while I'm shoveling snow.

How do I ask them not to share all the pictures they're sending, without sounding jealous or upset?

— Actually Jealous

Dear Jealous: Even though your question is a current one, it seems that many of your friends are living in an alternate universe — one not disrupted by a pandemic, financial insecurity and ... overall instability.

Now I'm jealous. I'm suggesting a two-pronged approach. First: Quietly decrease your exposure to these triggers by exiting from the text stream, muting the

posts on social media and creating a "rule" for your email, where emails from certain people automatically land in a folder, to be opened only when you have the strength.

Second: Use humor to wink at your own situation and "flip the script."

Here's your narrative: "It's a sweltering 4 degrees today in downtown Fargo, and I'm currently enjoying some precious time in the sun, while also getting in my morning workout of shoveling out my car!" (Post a photo.)

"Here I am, waiting in line for this afternoon's matinee." (Post a photo of you waiting in line for your weekly COVID-19 test.)

Your use of humor should never demean your friends' good fortune but is a way for you to demonstrate that you might be down for now, but you're not out. As long as you can find a way to laugh ... you're not out.

Dear Amy: "Concerned Grandpa" was worried that his grandsons were overweight. While mentioning this to the parents might help (probably not), please caution people not to call children fat!

— Upset

Dear Upset: I heartily agree. The best role of grandparents is to love the grandchildren in their lives — exactly as they are. Often, grandparents are the only people offering this sort of unconditional love and acceptance.

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HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): You're tempted to brag. However, you may not want people you're connected with through your job to know this side of you. Anonymous boasting might work, but that can be less secret than you think!

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You may find yourself shaking things up — whether you want to or not! That said, the ruckus might at least concern something you've been thinking deeply about for a long time. People may not be ready to process the details today. Maintain your own calm. It was once new to you too.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Sharing your view of the world may be tempting now, but finding the right boundaries could challenge you. Your opinions might have been formed by very personal experiences you didn't have alone. It might be necessary to let go of the idea that you can make everyone happy.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): The thought of very publicly revealing parts of yourself could be intimidating. Perhaps the situation calls for a more casual approach. Slipping your news into whatever conversations you would ordinarily have might be all you need to do! Others may not find it controversial.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Having a strong grasp of the details of your work could support a big idea you have. However, someone important to you might not be on the same page. You may have to decide if upsetting this person in the moment is a price you are willing to pay in order to move forward.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Getting work done may come easily today, as you can be in tune with your own unique strategies — ones that are potentially a better fit for you than the methods that authority figures recommend. If anyone hassles you, or if you have your own concerns about it, try looking at your results.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Secrets could be on your mind at this time, but you may need to consider how necessary keeping them private is. Since you got into the habit of silence, times could have changed. Speaking your truth may be liberating for you, but beginning to process it could awaken challenges.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You may want to portray a particular image of your family, but you might not be able to control how someone else tells their side of the story. If you're put off by a perspective that is different from yours being shared, you need to be honest about your narrative.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Worries about money could be weighing on you now, but don't let anxiety distract you from potential solutions. If you remain attentive in any conversations that come up, you may hear of an opportunity to earn additional income. Try something new. Get out of your rut.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A financial risk you're considering at the moment could turn out well for you, but you need to be aware. You may feel like money would help you impress others who aren't taking you seriously. The feeling that you can only meet your needs through manipulation could make it a hollow victory.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You may now be doing something very differently from how your family handled similar situations when you were growing up. However, there might be more subtle ways that you're still influenced by your upbringing. Keeping past techniques that work can help you.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Hiding some of your private life can make sense, but you may need to remember what you're hiding. If you aren't careful, a secret could come out. If it doesn't need to be a secret, though, maybe it's simply a piece of information about you that the other person didn't know.

LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

P	A	M	P	A		S	O	L	A	R		O	R	F	F		R	O	T	S	
A	R	I	A	S		P	R	A	D	A		I	B	A	R		E	C	R	U	
W	I	T	C	H	D	O	C	T	O	R		L	I	V	E	S	I	T	U	P	
N	E	T	I	P	O	T	S		B	E	E	R		R	E	P	L	A	C	E	
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H	E	M	I	N		S	H	E			A	B	E		R	E	Y				
A	M	E	S		T	A	U	T	O	U		S	A	P	I	D		S	E	A	
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S	T	U	N	T	P	I	L	O	T		P	A	S	T	R	Y	C	H	E	F	
A	R	L	O			N	A	V	E	L			G	A	I	A					
N	I	N	E	P	I	N		A	D	O	B	E				C	W	P	O	S	T
S	L	A	L	O	M	E	D				B	A	N	K	M	A	N	A	G	E	R
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R	A	C	E	C	A	R	D	R	I	V	E	R				G	I	N			
O	O	H	L	A	L	A		D	O	I	N			H	A	N	G	T	I	M	E
M	R	O	C	T	O	B	E	R			B	O	D	Y	B	U	I	L	D	E	R
E	T	C	H		S	A	G	A			E	L	U	D	E		L	A	N	A	I
O	A	K	S		S	T	O	P			S	A	G	E	T		S	W	O	L	E

SCRABBLEGRAMS

S ₁	U ₁	L ₁	P ₃	H ₄	I ₁	D ₂	RACK 1 =	63
W ₄	A ₁	R ₁	P ₃	A ₁	G ₂	E ₁	RACK 2 =	63
V ₄	O ₁	C ₃	O ₁	D ₂	E ₁	R ₁	RACK 3 =	67
T ₁	R ₁	U ₁	M ₃	P ₃	E ₁	T ₁	RACK 4 =	61
F ₄	L ₁	A ₁	T ₁	T ₁	O ₁	P ₃	RACK 5 =	86
PAR SCORE 265-275								TOTAL 340

SUDOKU

2	3	7	1	5	6	8	9	4
4	8	5	3	9	2	7	1	6
6	9	1	7	4	8	5	2	3
8	1	4	5	7	3	2	6	9
9	6	2	4	8	1	3	7	5
5	7	3	2	6	9	4	8	1
7	4	6	9	2	5	1	3	8
3	5	9	8	1	7	6	4	2
1	2	8	6	3	4	9	5	7

BOGGLE BRAIN BUSTERS!

EMU OWL
CROW SWAN DUCK
ROOK ROBIN EAGLE

JUMBLE

LOCALE ORIGIN
SPOKEN EXEMPT
SMOOCH TUSSEL

The cheese shop in the Scottish Highlands sold —

LOCH NESS "MUNSTER"

TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On Jan. 30, 1649, England's King Charles I was executed for high treason.

In 1945, during World War II, a Soviet submarine torpedoed the German ship MV Wilhelm Gustl-

off in the Baltic Sea with the loss of more than 9,000 lives, most of them war refugees; roughly 1,000 people survived.

In 1948, Indian political and spiritual leader Mohandas K. Gandhi, 78, was shot and killed in New Delhi by Nathuram Godse, a Hindu extremist.

In 1968, the Tet Offensive began during the Vietnam

War as Communist forces launched surprise attacks against South Vietnamese towns and cities.

In 1969, the Beatles staged an impromptu concert atop Apple headquarters in London; it was the group's last public performance.

In 2020, the World Health Organization declared the coronavirus outbreak a global emergency.

MY PET WORLD

Teach dog heel to avoid aggressive behavior on walks

By Cathy M. Rosenthal
Tribune Content Agency

Dear Cathy: In October 2017, my husband and I adopted a female Bichon Frise named Miami Sky from a rescue in Virginia Beach. Miami was 5 years old when we adopted her, and she is a great dog. One of her favorite things to do is walk through our neighborhood. She likes to look around, smell the roses and so forth while walking. There is a problem, however, involving a few dogs, both small breed terrier types. Miami reacts to them with continuous barking and lunging, so much so that I have to pick her up and carry her home. She also will wail and sometimes tremble. The other dogs pay her no mind and keep walking with their owner. This can happen even if she spots the dog from a distance.

One particular dog named Max, a Yorkie, is her main nemesis. She will walk in the direction of his house, stand, and look at the house, and sometimes circle back for a second or third look in the hopes he will come out, I suppose. I do my best to move her along, but for a little dog, she is strong. I have had to time her daily walks to avoid Max.

Is there an answer to this issue, or will I have to continue scheduling our walks in the hope of not running into Max? Any insights or advice would be most appreciated.

— Marianne, Virginia Beach, Virginia

Dear Marianne: Many dog owners reschedule their dog's walk to accommodate aggressive encounters with other dogs. But I agree that a long-term solution is much better and enables you to look forward and enjoy the walks as well. Is there a way to address this issue? Yes, but it can take many months and requires a lot of patience and consis-



Many dog owners reschedule their dog's walk to accommodate aggressive encounters with other dogs. LARYSA SHCHERBYNA/DREAMSTIME

tent training daily on your part to achieve.

First, get a pheromone collar for her to wear during the training period. Then begin training her to ignore other dogs by tossing treats on the floor in front of her. Start by training her in the house or outside in the driveway when no triggers are present. Use the smelliest, tastiest treats you can find, so she is obsessed with eating them. After you have her focused on searching the ground for treats, take her for a walk with treats in hand. Watch for potential triggers and toss treats to the ground

before she notices them or begins barking. If she stays focused on the treats, walk past these other dogs, praising and treating her for her silence and focused attention to you. If she ignores the treats and begins barking at the other dogs, say "heel," and abruptly turn 180 degrees and walk in the other direction as quickly as you can. She will have to stop barking to keep up with you. Wait a few seconds and then toss her a few treats for following you. Once she learns to turn with you without any tugging, give her treats immediately for the behav-

ior. I advise incorporating a reward word, like "Bingo," to acknowledge when she gets it right. The goal is to get Miami to focus on you, so you have to be a little unpredictable in the direction you are walking and have the tastiest treats on hand to distract her.

Let me know in a few months how the training goes.

Dear Cathy: I have a solution for "Jon" in Pompano Beach, Florida, whose 12-year-old cat Chelsea is urinating down the front of her litter box. I recently took in a shelter cat who

urinates down the front of the litter pan. I got an extra-long litter pan and lined it with newspaper and/or potty pads. I put a shorter litter pan inside the larger one and pushed it to the back of the larger litter pan, leaving a gap between each pan. Now, when she uses the litter box, the urine runs down the front of the shorter box and into the lined larger litter pan. I pull the liner up over the lip of the bottom tray just in case. I have not had a problem since. I hope this suggestion works for others.

— A. Delaney, Rocky Hill, Connecticut

Dear A. Delaney: I love it. What an easy solution to a frequent problem for cat owners. If anyone wants to see exactly what A. Delaney did to keep her cat's urine from hitting the floor, check out the picture I posted on Twitter @CathyMRosenthal.

Cathy M. Rosenthal is an animal advocate, author, columnist and pet expert. Send your questions, stories and tips to cathy@petpundit.com. Please include your name, city and state. You can follow her @cathymrosenthal.

'Is this a good time?' can now be asked via text message



Judith Martin
Miss Manners

Dear Miss Manners: I was taught that at the beginning of any phone call I make, it is polite to ask whether or not my friend is busy. I always ask, "Are you busy now?" or, "Do you have time to talk?"

However, many people who call launch directly into conversation without asking. It seemed to happen even more during the pandemic, when many of us were lonely and wanted to talk with a friend. I realize I can simply interrupt the caller, and have done so on a few occasions. I would just like to be given the courtesy of being asked.

Gentle reader: Technology has changed the experience of telephoning and being telephoned, much for the better. But Miss Manners notes that it has overtaken the need for some of the old courtesies.

Once, the ring of the telephone was considered an imperative summons. It was rude to demand attention without regard to the convenience of the person being called. But as one didn't know who was calling, it was considered best not to take a chance on missing something important. Now, not only do we know who is calling, we can set different rings for different callers, or turn off the ring entirely. Knowing that we all have other demands on our time, no one should be insulted at having to leave a message.

The increasingly prevalent belief is that less-intrusive communication tools should be used if there is not a reason that

real-time speaking is necessary. If you think you are in danger of interrupting someone who nevertheless answers all calls, you might text your polite inquiry: "Would this be a good time to talk?"

Dear Miss Manners: I married the unfavored son of a woman who has made regular large gifts to her favorite. MIL prefers to have an audience when she gives a gift, so her motivation is at least partly to get attention.

My husband and I, a family of two, have a comfortable lifestyle. We travel and always look smart when we visit the in-laws. But we are still the "dumpster" children or scapegoats, while BIL and his family are positively "golden." The favoritism has been so blatant lately that it seems MIL's entire household supply of antiques and silver has been moved en masse to BIL's home, where we have to step around it.

MIL seems to want competition for her favor between the adult children, when the winner has already been announced. I think she's watched too many reality TV shows. I need your help so that I don't appear at all envious of BIL and his advance inheritance. MIL isn't going to favor my husband, ever, but we can take the sting out of it for ourselves.

Gentle reader: Do not take the bait. Avoid putting yourselves in positions where your MIL or BIL — or any IL — can put you in jeopardy of appearing to be in competition. And if that is unavoidable, Miss Manners suggests you keep your expression blank and your disposition even.

Your reward will be an obstacle-free house, devoid of revenge inheritance —

so much easier to clean on both a literal and psychological level.

Dear Miss Manners: I am a 68-year-old formerly childless aunt. My sister died two years ago after a very long illness, and I have "inherited" my adult nephew. I think of him more as a son at this point, and he thinks of me as his "aunt-mom."

He is recently married, and he, his wife and her son are living with me. They plan to continue to do so — I am getting no younger, and they are happy to have extra support; it works well for all of us. Her son is a terrific 6-year-old who calls me "Aunt Bea," as do many of my younger relatives. I have sometimes referred to my nephew's wife as my daughter-in-law, as I don't wish to explain the whole thing to casual acquaintances. She is OK with that. Do you have suggestions as to how this might best be handled?

Gentle reader: It is a false assumption that a social introduction must involve a family tree, complete with timelines, genetic identification and background checks for accuracy. It is clear that the people who matter in your situation find it more than amenable — and that is what is important. Whatever shorthand versions of relationship titles you choose are fine — and if you are called upon to expand, Miss Manners suggests a simple, "We are family, and this works wonderfully for us."

To send a question to the Miss Manners team of Judith Martin, Nicholas Ivor Martin and Jacobina Martin, go to missmanners.com or write them c/o Universal Uclick, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106.

Black tie events are no joke and proper dress is a must



Ellen Warren
Answer Angel

Dear Answer Angel Ellen: I am invited to a black tie event several months away. Who knows whether it will be canceled because of COVID, but if it isn't, I need to know the answer to this question: Would it be OK for me to wear one of those T-shirts that look like a tuxedo? I really don't want to spend the money to rent a tux and the shoes, etc., to go with it.

— Harry W.

Dear Harry: These shirts are a gag or a costume item. The answer is a big no. At best, you'll look silly and you will definitely call attention to yourself. Most of the shirts that look like the top half of a tuxedo have short sleeves, which in itself will make you stand out in the crowd — and not in a good way. (I have seen long sleeve tux T-shirts, but they're harder to find and still not appropriate.) If you feel like you must go to this event, you're going to have to pay the rental cost or ask anyone you know who is roughly your size if they have one you can borrow. Another suggestion is to keep an eye out at thrift stores. I see plenty of tuxedos (white tux shirts, too) on the racks there. I'm not endorsing this, but at every black tie event I've gone there are a couple guys who show up in dark suits instead of formal wear. If none of those ideas suit you and it isn't absolutely essential that you show up, send your regrets and stay home.

Angelic readers
The response to reader



For a black tie event, rent a tuxedo or ask anyone if you can borrow one, says Answer Angel Ellen Warren. DREAMSTIME

Joy I.'s question about unwanted facial hair elicited loads of comments and suggestions from women who welcomed the opportunity to help fellow sufferers from this delicate but little discussed problem.

Many readers — Mary C., Cindi B., Gail A., Wendy B., Gladys G. and E. D. — recommend shaving with regular disposable razors or small battery-operated ones marketed to women. Two readers complained that the Finishing Touch Flawless facial hair remover (ulta.com, walmart.com, \$19.99) is poorly made and doesn't last.

Some other recommendations: Marg B. likes Gigi Hair Removal Cream (sallybeauty.com, \$7.69). Brenda J. says prescription-only Vaniqa slows down hair growth. Brenda says, "It is very expensive but worth every penny to me" and she says coupons are available for some savings. Judi C. uses the

Remington iLight Ultra face and body home hair reduction system and is "very happy" with the results, though it doesn't work on light colored hair and is pricey (amazon.com, \$485.97).

Kathryn G. says a rechargeable epilator (amazon.com, \$27 and up) "grabs the hair and pulls it out by the root" which is "uncomfortable but you get used to it."

Sharon T. favors the Emjoi epilator (amazon.com, \$49.95 and up). Cynthia M. says the Dorco Tinkle eyebrow and facial razor (amazon.com, \$4.95 for 6) "does not disappoint." Julie B. is a Tinkle fan too.

Now it's your turn

Send your questions, rants, tips, favorite finds — on style, shopping, makeup, fashion and beauty — to answerangel@jellen@gmail.com.

At-home COVID-19 test isn't 'get-out-jail-free card'

Negative result no guarantee person not carrying virus, ill due to variables

By Julie Appleby and Phil Galewitz
Kaiser Health News

Julie Ann Justo, an infectious disease clinical pharmacist for a South Carolina hospital system, hoped Christmas week would finally be the time her family could safely gather for a reunion.

Before the celebration, family members who were eligible were vaccinated and boosted. They quarantined and used masks in the days leading up to the event. And many took solace in negative results from rapid COVID-19 tests taken a few days before the 35-person indoor gathering in South Florida to make sure no one was infectious.

But within a week, Justo and at least 13 members of her extended family tested positive for COVID-19, with many feeling typical symptoms of an upper respiratory virus, such as a sore throat and a runny nose.

Like many others, Justo's family learned the hard way that a single negative result from an at-home rapid test, which takes about 15 minutes, is no guarantee that a person is not ill or carrying the virus.

There are just so many variables. Testing may come either too soon, before enough virus is present to detect, or too late, after a person has already spread the virus to others.

And most rapid tests, even according to their instructions, are meant to be used in pairs — generally a day or two apart — for increased accuracy. Despite that, a few brands are sold one to a box and, with the tests sometimes expensive and in short supply, families are often relying on a single screening.

While home antigen testing remains a useful —



Abbott Laboratories' BinaxNOW is among the at-home rapid COVID-19 tests available. HANNAH NORMAN/KAISER HEALTH NEWS

and underutilized — tool to curb the pandemic, experts say, it is often misused and may provide false confidence.

Some people mistakenly look at the home tests “like a get-out-of-jail-free card,” said Dr. William Schaffner, a specialist in infectious diseases at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine in Nashville, Tennessee. “I’m negative, so I don’t have to worry anymore.”

That is even more true now that the new more transmissible variant dominates the country.

“Omicron is so transmissible that it is challenging to use any kind of testing strategy in terms of get-togethers and be successful,” said Dr. Patrick Mathias, vice chair of clinical operations for the Department of Laboratory Medicine & Pathology at the University of Washington School of Medicine.

Rapid tests are pretty good at correctly detecting infection in people with symptoms, Mathias said, with a 70% to nearly 90% range of accuracy estimated in several studies. Even then, the tests can still miss some infected people. That raises the risk of spread, with the chance rising dramatically as the number of people attending an event grows.

Results of antigen tests are less accurate for people without symptoms. For the asymptomatic, the rapid tests, “on average, (correctly) detect infection roughly 50% of the time,” said Shama Cash-Goldwasser, an adviser for Prevent Epidemics at Resolve to Save Lives, a nonprofit group run by Dr. Tom Frieden, a former director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Looking back, Justo said her family took precautions, but she acknowl-

edges missteps that put them at increased risk: Not all family members were tested before getting together because of a shortage of test kits. Some members of her family who could find rapid tests tested just once because of the need to ration tests. And in attendance were several children younger than 5 who are not yet eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine.

“We probably were relying too heavily on negative rapid tests in order to gather indoors with others without other layers of protections,” she said.

Even if everyone tested properly before the party, health experts said, it wouldn’t mean all attendees are “safe” from getting COVID-19. Testing merely reduces the risk of exposure; it doesn’t eliminate it.

Other factors in assessing risk at a gathering: Is everyone vaccinated and boosted, which can help

reduce the likelihood of infection? Did attendees properly follow all the steps outlined in the test kits’ instructions, which can differ by brand? Did anyone test too early after exposure or, conversely, not close enough to the event?

One critical detail “is the timing of the test,” said Schaffner. Test too early, such as within a day or two of exposure, and results won’t be accurate. Similarly, testing several days before an event won’t tell you much about who may be infectious on the day of the gathering.

Schaffner and others recommend that self-testing start three days after a known exposure or, if one feels ill, a few days after the onset of symptoms. Because the timeline for detecting an infection is uncertain, it’s always a good idea to use both tests in the kit, as instructed — the second one 24 to 36

hours after the first. For an event, make sure one of the tests is performed on the day of the gathering.

Rapid home tests need to be used over multiple days to increase the chance of an accurate result.

“Each individual test does not have much value as serial testing,” said Dr. Zishan Siddiqui, chief medical officer at the Baltimore Convention Center Field Hospital and an assistant professor of medicine at Johns Hopkins University. And, because the tests are less reliable in those without symptoms, he said, asymptomatic people should not be relying on a single rapid test to gather with friends or family without taking other mitigation measures.

False negatives are also more likely when the extent of the disease in a certain area, called community spread, is rampant. “If there’s a lot of community spread, that increases the likelihood that you have COVID” at a gathering, said Cash-Goldwasser, since one or more attendees who tested negative may have received a false result.

Vaccinations, boosters, masking, physical distancing, ventilation and testing separately are all imperfect strategies to prevent infection. But layered together, they can serve as a more effective barrier, Schaffner said. “The rapid test is useful, but it’s a barrier with holes in it,” he added.

The virus moved through those gaps to crash the party and infect the Justo family. While most of the attendees largely had mild symptoms, Justo said she was short of breath, fatigued and experienced headaches, muscle pain and nausea. It took about 10 days before she felt better.

“I certainly spent a lot of time going back to what we could have done differently,” Justo said. “Thankfully no one needed to go to the hospital, and I attribute that to the vaccinations — and for that I am grateful.”

PEOPLE'S PHARMACY PRESCRIPTIONS AND HOME REMEDIES

Here's why hot showers feel so good when you're itchy

By Joe Graedon, M.S., and Teresa Graedon, Ph.D.
King Features Syndicate

Q: I'm dealing with intense body itching, especially on my legs. My allergist prescribed hydroxyzine, and that helps somewhat. The best temporary relief, though, is a hot shower. While somewhat counterintuitive, as health professionals say hot showers dry the skin too much, I find the sensation euphoric for a few seconds. Then the itching subsides for a few hours. Why do hot showers feel so good?

A: Dermatologists have known for decades that uncomfortably hot water can alleviate itching for hours. We found a reference to this remedy in the textbook, *Dermatology: Diagnosis and Treatment* (1961).

Doctors did not understand the mechanism for this approach until fairly recently, though. Now we know that transient receptor potential (TRP) channels are essential in the perception of itch (Allergy International, January 2017). These same channels found on nerve cells are crucial for sensing temperature. Overwhelming those nerve cells with heat can interfere with their ability to transmit itch for quite some time.

You do need to be careful not to use water so hot it will harm your skin. Ultimately, you and your doctor will need to get a good diagnosis so that the underlying problem can be addressed. In the meantime, hot water can offer temporary relief.

Q: For the first three decades of my life, I routinely had episodes



Overwhelming nerve cells with heat can interfere with their ability to transmit itch. DREAMSTIME

of the common cold over the winter. At the time, vitamin C was being touted as a cold preventative. A supplement seemed simple to try, so I did. It worked like magic. I take 500 mg per day, and I have not had a cold for over 40 years.

Is vitamin C still supposed to prevent colds? Could it provide any protection against the COVID-19 variants?

A: Vitamin C for colds has been controversial for decades. An article appeared in the *Medical Journal of Australia* in 1947. It was titled “Vitamin C in the Prevention of Colds.” Ever since, doctors have been arguing about how effective this nutrient might be against respiratory tract infections.

A review in *Frontiers in Immunology* (May 10, 2021) concluded that: “There is strong evidence that vitamin C can shorten the duration of respiratory virus infections.” The authors also report that people taking high doses of vitamin C may have shorter duration of symptoms associated with COVID-19.

Q: My doctor wants me

to go back on statins even though they cause me muscle pain and cramping. I am also concerned about an increased risk for diabetes.

I take levothyroxine for hypothyroidism. Since coming off statins I have been eating more nuts, beans and whole grains. I have a salad every day with olive oil and vinegar dressing. Do you think such a regimen could help control my blood sugar and my cholesterol?

A: Statins can raise the risk for diabetes. If not well controlled, your thyroid condition could contribute to elevated cholesterol. A new study reveals that olive oil can lower blood lipids and inflammation and improve insulin sensitivity and blood sugar control (*Journal of the American College of Cardiology*, Jan. 18, 2022).

Beans, whole grains and vinegar can also help control blood sugar and cholesterol.

In their column, Joe and Teresa Graedon answer letters from readers. Send questions to them via www.peoplespharmacy.com

Q&A

Have an overactive bladder? Here's how to deal with it

Mayo Clinic

Q: I am in my mid-30s and a mom of twins, and it seems that I recently developed what must be an overactive bladder. It hinders my daily activities and makes me feel embarrassed, as I often must excuse myself abruptly. I wake up multiple times at night, too. Sometimes I also seem to leak urine. Are these conditions common for women my age, and what can I do to make them more manageable?

A: An overactive bladder causes a sudden urge to urinate. The condition is common, affecting over 33 million Americans. It affects both men and women, although women are more susceptible because of pregnancy, childbirth and menopause.

With a healthy bladder, the brain signals that the bladder is getting full. When you get to a bathroom, your bladder muscles contract and force urine out of the bladder. Overactive bladder can result from the nerve signals between the bladder and the brain not functioning properly. People with overactive bladders frequently feel a sudden urge to urinate.

In general, the risk for overactive bladder increases with age. Several conditions can contribute to signs and symptoms of overactive bladder, including:

- Neurological disorders, such as stroke and multiple sclerosis;
- Diabetes;
- Urinary tract infections that can cause symptoms similar to those of an overactive bladder;
- Hormonal changes during menopause in women;



Over 33 million Americans have overactive bladders. DREAMSTIME

■ Abnormalities in the bladder, such as tumors or bladder stones; and
■ Sometimes medications, excess caffeine and incomplete bladder emptying can contribute to overactive bladder issues.

The good news is that there are a variety of treatments for managing overactive bladder. Depending on your situation, options can include simple behavioral modifications, physical therapy, oral medications or outpatient procedures. It is important to discuss your situation with your gynecologist who can refer you to a specialist to learn more about treatment options.

The urgency associated with an overactive bladder can be difficult to stop and can lead to episodes of involuntary loss of urine. This is known as urge incontinence, which may be the leaking you are experiencing. Urge incontinence is the most prominent form of incontinence among women in the U.S. Approximately 1 in 4 women over 18 report experiencing episodes of leaking urine involuntarily.

Overactive bladder can cause urgency, even when the bladder is not full. The muscles of the bladder start to contract involuntarily, even when the

volume of urine in your bladder is low. This creates the urgent sensation to void your bladder.

It is important to note that women who have an overactive bladder also may have a disorder called mixed incontinence, when both urgency and stress incontinence occur. Stress incontinence is the unintentional loss of urine prompted by physical movement or activity that puts pressure on your bladder, such as coughing, sneezing, laughing or exercising.

Although overactive bladder and urinary leaking can be disruptive, maintaining a healthy lifestyle, including regular physical activity and exercise with core strengthening, is important. Also, although it may seem counterintuitive, drinking plenty of water is important, so that your body and muscles function regularly. You also can ease overactive bladder symptoms by limiting consumption of caffeine and alcohol.

— Compiled by Mayo Clinic staff

Mayo Clinic Q & A is an educational resource and doesn't replace regular medical care. Email a question to MayoClinicQ&A@mayo.edu.

George cracked tricky timeline for new book

21st Lynley novel had 5 drafts before author was happy

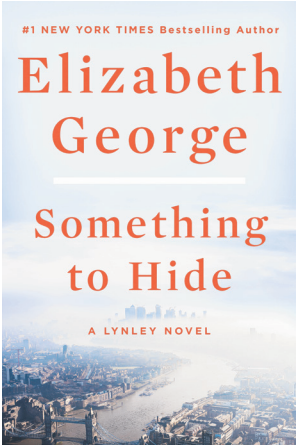
By Moira Macdonald
The Seattle Times

Elizabeth George does have an endgame for her bestselling Inspector Thomas Lynley mysteries — the newest of which, “Something to Hide,” is now in bookstores. But, to the relief of the many fans of the U.K.-set series, she hasn’t arrived there yet. George said she’s always delighted to begin a new Lynley book. “There’s always a sense of homecoming when the characters step onto the page, like I’m seeing them after a long hiatus.”

Though she’s “known for a really long time where the characters are heading and how their stories ultimately will end,” George said she hasn’t yet discovered exactly how to get them to that point. “Plus, I don’t want to close down anyone’s story by being hasty. I think that it’s really important to keep opening a character’s story up.”

So those who’ve long loved this series — which began in 1988 with “A Great Deliverance” — needn’t worry about closure as they dive into “Something to Hide.” It’s the 21st book to feature the gentlemanly, patrician Lynley — he is, in fact, the eighth Earl of Asherton, and the acting detective chief superintendent at London’s New Scotland Yard — and his wry, junk-food-loving partner Detective Sergeant Barbara Havers.

In this volume, Lynley, Havers and colleague Detective Sergeant Winston Nkata are called in when a police detective working on a special task force is murdered. As is



‘Something to Hide’
By Elizabeth George; Viking, 704 pages, \$29.

typical of George’s novels, multiple plotlines begin to converge, and characters new and old step to the forefront (including Deborah St. James, a longtime friend of Lynley’s, and Nkata’s kindhearted mother, Alice).

Much of the book takes place within the Nigerian community in north London, and George said she specifically requested that her British editor ask a Nigerian woman reader to look over a draft and offer feedback, particularly on issues related to ritual genital cutting (a significant element in one of the book’s subplots involving a Nigerian immigrant family). But after much research into the topic, she felt confident that she understood the issues.

“In some ways I’ve been doing that my entire career, writing about other cultures,” George said. “It’s what I’ve always tried to do with a great deal of sensitivity and respect.”

“Something to Hide” was particularly challenging not only for its subject matter, but its complicated chronology; George said she had to write five drafts before she had one with which she was entirely happy.

A longtime teacher of writing (the process of which she explored in her recent nonfiction book “Mastering the Process: From Idea to Novel”), George described the timeline issue as “keeping the reader at the right part of the wave — the plot is the breaking wave, and the reader is either on the wave or swimming fast to catch up with it. The reader can’t be in front of it.” Working on the book, she would sometimes “reach a certain point and realize, OK, the reader is in the wrong place so I have to start again. It took me a lot longer than my books normally do. I was really glad when I was able to crack the problem and successfully alter the book in such a way that the timeline worked.”

George traveled to London to research the novel in 2018, visiting the neighborhoods where her story would be set and talking to people who lived there. It was good timing: she ended up finishing the novel during the pandemic — “I just continued to go to my office; my days were just as they have always been.” Though she relies mostly on the copious notes and photographs from her research, occasionally the internet lends a hand: She found one young character’s home, in the suburban London neighborhood of Stoke Newington, on Google Earth — “exactly the house her family would likely live in.”

As always, George took special pleasure in the character of Havers, whose T-shirts are legendary. (One she sports in “Something to Hide” reads “Being cremated is my last hope for a smoking hot body.”) In this book, Barbara discovers Pop-Tarts as breakfast food (“They were suitably naughty enough that I thought they would



Elizabeth George is the author of the bestselling Inspector Thomas Lynley series of mysteries. Its 21st installment, “Something to Hide,” is now available. **JENNIFER ADAMS**

work for Barbara,” George said) and continues to say exactly what she thinks. “She is a lot of fun to write, and in part it’s because she has edge,” George said. “What I tell my writing students is, it is always easier to write a character who has edge. It’s much more difficult to write a character who’s generally a nice person. “That person, without edge, appears to have nothing for a reader to hang on to ... So it’s tough to depict that without ending up with somebody who sounds like Pollyanna. That’s why Havers exists

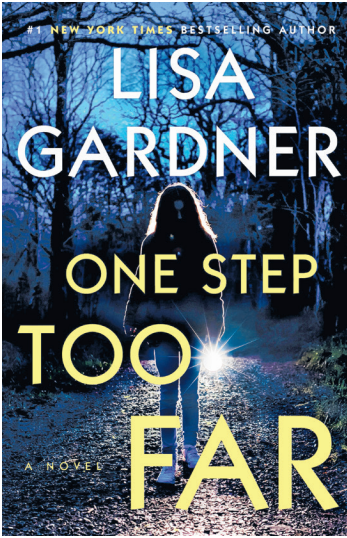
in some way to give me a good time, and she is so (darn) funny. I never know for sure what she’s going to say, I literally don’t know where she comes from, but she occupies a big space in my brain.” Now at work on a novel for young adults, George nonetheless has the next Lynley book in the back of her mind, and was able to take a research trip to London and Cornwall last fall. “Basically I’m a literary gumshoe, going out and checking all these different locations for potential stories,” she said. She needs to finish the

YA novel before moving on to Lynley, but the 22nd book in the series is already taking shape in her mind. “I have the photographs and the interviews typed up. I know what the crime is, I know where the story takes place.” Someday, she’ll wrap up the Lynley/Havers saga, but she’s not planning on it anytime soon. “The when of it is something I’m not sure of,” she said. “But ultimately, before I kick over, I would like to end the series so the reader does have an ending — so they can see that it’s come full circle.”

NATIONAL BESTSELLERS

HARDCOVER FICTION

1. **“One Step Too Far”** by Lisa Gardner (Dutton) *Last week: —*



2. **“The Horsewoman”** by James Patterson and Mike Lupica (Little, Brown) *Last week: 2*

3. **“The Maid”** by Nita Prose (Ballantine) *Last week: 3*

4. **“The Judge’s List”** by John Grisham (Doubleday) *Last week: 6*

5. **“The Last Thing He Told Me”** by Laura Dave (Simon & Schuster) *Last week: 7*

6. **“The Lincoln Highway”** by Amor Towles (Viking) *Last week: 8*

7. **“The Stranger in the Lifeboat”** by Mitch Albom (Harper) *Last week: —*

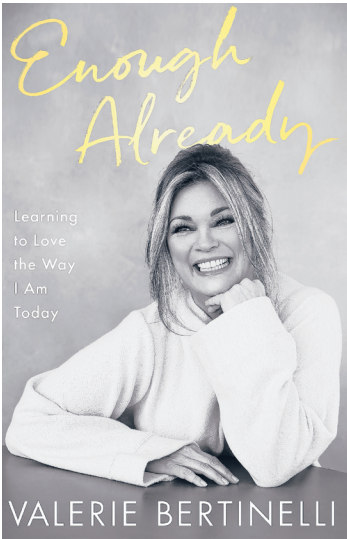
8. **“Invisible”** by Danielle Steel (Delacorte) *Last week: 5*

9. **“Wish You Were Here”** by Jodi Picoult (Ballantine) *Last week: 10*

10. **“The Wish”** by Nicholas Sparks (Grand Central) *Last week: 9*

HARDCOVER NONFICTION

1. **“Enough Already: Learning to Love the Way I Am Today”** by Valerie Bertinelli (Harvest) *Last week: —*



2. **“Atlas of the Heart: Mapping Meaningful Connection and the Language of Human Experience”** by Brene Brown (Random House) *Last week: 4*

3. **“The Real Anthony Fauci: Bill Gates, Big Pharma, and the Global War on Democracy and Public Health”** by Robert F. Kennedy Jr. (Skyhorse) *Last week: 3*

4. **“The Betrayal of Anne Frank: A Cold Case Investigation”** by Rosemary Sullivan (Harper) *Last week: —*

5. **“The Great Reset: Joe Biden and the Rise of Twenty-First-Century Fascism”** by Glenn Beck (Forefront) *Last week: 2*

6. **“The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story”** by Nikole Hannah-Jones (One World) *Last week: 8*

7. **“Amp It Up: Leading for Hypergrowth by Raising Expectations, Increasing Urgency, and Elevating Intensity”** by Frank Sliotman (Wiley) *Last week: —*

8. **“Baby Steps Millionaires: How Ordinary People Built Extraordinary Wealth — and How You Can Too”** by Dave Ramsey (Ramsey Press) *Last week: 1*

9. **“Nom Nom Paleo: Let’s Go!”** by Michelle Tam and Henry Fong (Andrews McMeel) *Last week: —*

10. **“Younger You: Reduce Your Bio Age and Live Longer, Better”** by Kara N. Fitzgerald (Hachette Go) *Last week: —*

For the week ended Jan. 22, compiled from data from independent and chain bookstores, book wholesalers and independent distributors nationwide.

— Publishers Weekly

6 picks for the paperback stack

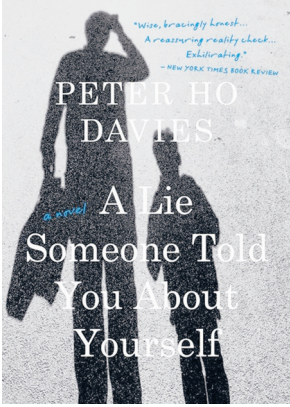
By Moira Macdonald
The Seattle Times

Here are six fresh paperback picks for your stack; mostly fiction, all promising.

‘A Lie Someone Told You About Yourself’ by Peter Ho Davies (HarperCollins, \$15.99): Davies, author of “The Fortunes” and “The Welsh Girl,” here spins a semiautobiographical novel about a writer becoming a father. “This is a complicated story, told with fearless honesty,” wrote a reviewer in The Guardian. “The prose is rueful, spare and matter-of-fact, but emotions churn beneath the clean surface. It can be very funny, but it can also stop you in your tracks.”

‘Legends of the North Cascades’ by Jonathan Evison (Algonquin Books, \$16.95): Evison, whose previous novel was the delightful “Lawn Boy,” returns with a sweeping story of a troubled veteran who moves with his daughter into a cave in the Cascades — and whose lives parallel that of an ice age mother and child. Publisher’s Weekly called it “an intimate if uneven story of grief and parenthood with characters from two distant millennia,” adding that “Evison’s empathetic vision offers much to consider about the limits of parental authority and the capacity for both physical and emotional survival.”

‘Of Women and Salt,’ by Gabriela Garcia (Flatiron, \$16.99): A 2021 award winner and bestseller, Garcia’s debut makes its way from present-day Miami to 19th-century Cuba and back again. Calling it “beautifully evocative,” a New York Times reviewer writes that this tale of mothers and daughters grappling with



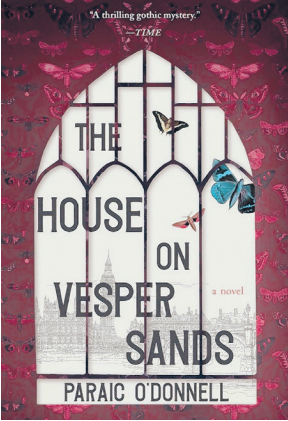
‘A Lie Someone Told You About Yourself’
By Peter Ho Davies; HarperCollins, 256 pages \$15.99.

their pasts “is shaped, and given buoyancy, by Garcia’s sharp prose and by (the main character’s) ability to continue believing that the unexpected is possible, even as it repeatedly fails to materialize.”

‘My Broken Language,’ by Quiara Alegria Hudes (Random House, \$18): The Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright (“Water by the Spoonful”) who recently adapted her book for the Lin-Manuel Miranda musical “In the Heights” for the big screen here writes of her childhood in the Philadelphia barrio, with her Puerto Rican family.

A starred Kirkus Review called it “a tender yet defiant tale about finding strength in one’s roots,” noting that “the text often reads like poetry, but it is also playful, the author toying with the barriers of language, and the narrative is propelled by the urgent notion that community matters in a world designed to push the have-nots further into the margins.”

‘A Registry of My Passage Upon the Earth: Stories,’ by Daniel Mason (Little, Brown, \$16.99): This collection of short fiction from the author of “The Winter Soldier” was a



‘The House on Vesper Sands’
By Paraic O’Donnell; Tin House Books, 408 pages, \$16.95.

finalist for the Pulitzer Prize; the stories were written over 15 years and set in locations all over the world.

“These stories are some of the most unique and beguiling I’ve read in quite some time,” wrote a San Francisco Chronicle reviewer, calling them “a perfect and fitting pick for these seemingly endless days when science, our understanding of reality and a faint longing for human connection are so irrevocably intertwined.”

‘The House on Vesper Sands,’ by Paraic O’Donnell (Tin House Books, \$16.95): I was charmed by this mystery novel, set in Victorian England, when it came out in hardcover a year ago, writing that it was “filled with atmosphere so thick you could spread it on toast.”

Taking place over a series of wintry nights in 1893, it features a wonderfully wry detective (who, if there’s any justice, would star in his own Victorian reality show; or at least a sequel), a female journalist and a lovelorn young man who becomes an assistant detective while helping to solve a mysterious death. Gripping, elegantly written and very funny, it might be exactly what you need on a dark evening.

Hartford Courant

SPORTS

COURANT.COM/SPORTS

Conflicting reports emerge on Brady

Ex-Patriots QB reportedly told Bucs he hasn't made decision on retirement

By Nicole Yang
Boston Globe

BOSTON — Former Patriots quarterback Tom Brady's possible retirement created a frenzy Saturday, when ESPN first reported that the seven-time Super Bowl champion is planning to retire after 22 seasons.

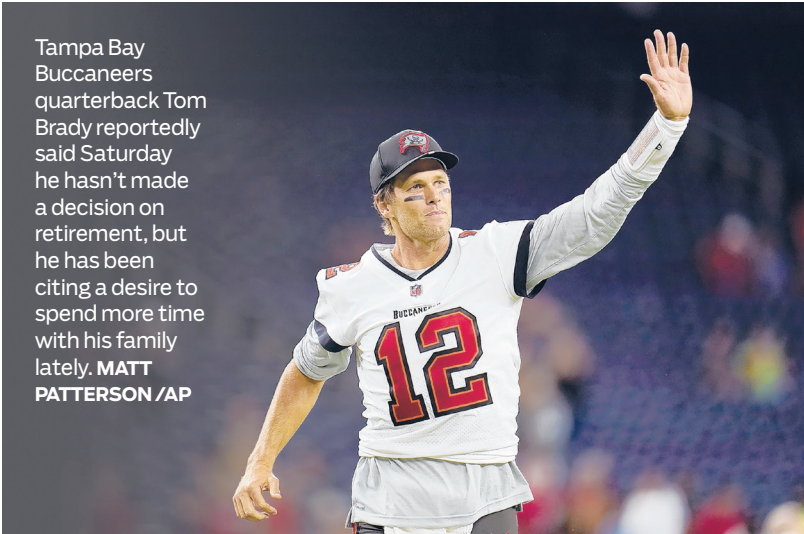
NFL Network confirmed ESPN's story, and a league source also confirmed the report to the Globe. Around the same time, TB12, Brady's performance and wellness brand, posted a tweet

congratulating him on a storied career.

But by mid-afternoon, the story took a turn, when Don Yee, Brady's longtime agent, issued a carefully-worded statement that seemed to cast doubt on the star's retirement without actually refuting the news.

"I understand the advance speculation about Tom's future," Yee said. "Without getting into the accuracy or inaccuracy of what's being reported, Tom will be the

Turn to Brady, Page 3



Tampa Bay Buccaneers quarterback Tom Brady reportedly said Saturday he hasn't made a decision on retirement, but he has been citing a desire to spend more time with his family lately. **MATT PATTERSON/AP**

Brady's impact

The 44-year-old was drafted out of Michigan in the sixth round in 2000. Here's just a glimpse at the numbers he put up in 22 seasons:

Super Bowl appearances: 10
Super Bowl wins: Seven
Super Bowl MVPs: Five
NFL MVPs: Three

In the regular season: All-time leader in wins, TD passes, yardage and completions

In the postseason: All-time leader in wins, TD passes and yardage

OLYMPICS



CAMERON SPENCER/GETTY

Get ready for the Games

When she heads downhill in the Olympics snowboard cross in Beijing next month, Lindsey Jacobellis will tie a record by competing in her fifth Games. She won silver in her first, 2006 in Italy, but has been searching for a second medal since. Jacobellis, from Roxbury, is just one of a number of Olympians with ties to Connecticut. **Read about them all on Page E5.**

Up next



UConn at Providence
7:30 p.m., SNY

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

It's time for team to solidify identity

By Alexa Philippou
Hartford Courant

PROVIDENCE — Much of this UConn women's basketball season has been defined by injuries and one underlying question had its luck shaken out differently: What could have been?

The Huskies aren't entirely back to their full selves yet, with sophomore Paige Bueckers waiting in the wings heading into February. But in their 80-78 win over DePaul Wednesday, they finally got a clearer picture of what their ceiling can be with senior Christyn Williams out of COVID-19 protocols and finally, freshman sensation Azzi Fudd back from a foot injury that had sidelined her for 11 games.

Fudd provides a much-needed offensive threat, including some firepower from the perimeter, while also being a strong defender for a freshman. Wednesday was also the first time that she got to share the floor with Caroline Ducharme since the latter has emerged as a consistent, go-to scorer. Now UConn has a plethora of guards it can mix into the backcourt after playing six of their previous nine games with only three.

There's still plenty to sharpen up over the next five weeks, especially

Turn to UConn, Page 4

After promising rookie season with Jets, Windsor's Pinnock home celebrating his 'Connecticut Way'

Jason Pinnock never doubted for a moment that he belonged in the NFL, he says. That's how he got from Windsor High, through Pitt to the Jets — by believing he'd earned every step forward and upward.

"I always played with a chip on my shoulder," he said. "I never let where I'm from or anything stop me."

That doesn't mean Pinnock, 22, couldn't be the wide-eyed rookie once in a while, especially when he was looking across the line

of scrimmage at Tom Brady, his father's favorite player.

"I laughed with my dad all week," Pinnock said, "because for me it was nothing different, it's my job, it's a profession, it's just another guy on the field. But he may do some things when you're like, 'Wow, that's why he's the greatest.' I tried to attack it, I gave the respect and probably watched double the film that week, but just the excitement of being a kid watching him every Sunday and



Dom Amore

then being able to line up across him in one of my first NFL starts, it's Tom Brady, the 'GOAT.'"

Louis Pinnock was hoping his son could make an interception. That didn't happen on Jan. 2,

when Brady pulled the Bucs from behind to beat the Jets, 28-24. But Jason played another solid game at safety and teammate Brandin Echols did pick one off.


"So my dad got to touch a Brady interception ball," Jason said. "But it just wasn't his son's."

Maybe next year if Brady doesn't retire. The way Pinnock, who has the look of a fifth-round draft steal, and the Jets finished

Turn to Amore, Page 3




Windsor's Jason Pinnock moved from cornerback to safety and finished his rookie season with the Jets on a promising note. **ADAM HUNGER/AP**



Safety Tip of the Day

When shoveling snow, lift with your legs, not your back. Do not work to the point of exhaustion.



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SCOREBOARD

NBA				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB
Brooklyn	29	19	.604	—
Philadelphia	29	19	.604	—
Boston	25	25	.500	4
Toronto	23	23	.500	4
New York	23	27	.460	7
SOUTHEAST				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Miami	32	17	.653	—
Charlotte	28	22	.560	4 1/2
Washington	23	25	.479	8 1/2
Atlanta	23	25	.479	8 1/2
Orlando	10	40	.200	22 1/2
CENTRAL				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Chicago	30	18	.625	—
Cleveland	30	19	.612	1/2
Milwaukee	31	20	.608	1/2
Indiana	18	32	.360	13
Detroit	11	37	.229	19 1/2
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
SOUTHWEST				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Memphis	34	17	.667	—
Dallas	28	21	.571	5
San Antonio	19	31	.380	14 1/2
New Orleans	18	30	.375	14 1/2
Houston	14	35	.286	19
NORTHWEST				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Utah	30	20	.600	—
Denver	27	21	.563	2
Minnesota	24	25	.490	5 1/2
Portland	21	28	.429	8 1/2
Oklahoma City	14	34	.292	15
PACIFIC				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Phoenix	39	9	.813	—
Golden State	36	13	.735	3 1/2
L.A. Clippers	25	26	.490	15 1/2
L.A. Lakers	24	26	.480	16
Sacramento	18	32	.360	22

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
Boston at New Orleans, late
Indiana at Dallas, late
Sacramento at Philadelphia, late
Toronto at Miami, late
Washington at Memphis, late
Brooklyn at Golden State, late

SUNDAY'S GAMES
L.A. Clippers at Charlotte, 1p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Atlanta, 1p.m.
Portland at Cleveland, 3:30p.m.
Cleveland at Detroit, 6p.m.
Dallas at Orlando, 7p.m.
Denver at Milwaukee, 7p.m.
San Antonio at Phoenix, 8p.m.
Utah at Minnesota, 8p.m.

MONDAY'S GAMES
L.A. Clippers at Indiana, 7p.m.
Memphis at Philadelphia, 7p.m.
New Orleans at Cleveland, 7p.m.
Miami at Boston, 7:30p.m.
Sacramento at New York, 7:30p.m.
Toronto at Atlanta, 7:30p.m.
Golden State at Houston, 8p.m.
Portland at Oklahoma City, 8p.m.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
Orlando 119, Detroit 103
Atlanta 108, Boston 92
Charlotte 117, L.A. Lakers 114
Denver 116, New Orleans 105
Indiana 113, Oklahoma City 110(OT)
Miami 121, L.A. Clippers 110
Portland 125, Houston 110
Memphis 119, Utah 109
San Antonio 131, Chicago 122
Phoenix 134, Minnesota 124
Milwaukee 123, New York 108

NBA LEADERS		SCORING		FG		FG FT		PTS		AVG	
Durant, BKN	36	379	228	1053	29.3						
James, LAL	36	393	161	1047	29.1						
Embiid, PHI	37	348	329	1071	28.9						
Antikmpo, MIL	41	406	323	1180	28.8						
Young, ATL	44	406	272	1212	27.5						
DeRozan, CHI	44	422	295	1166	26.5						
Jokic, DEN	43	434	191	1128	26.2						
Morant, MEM	38	365	193	983	25.9						
Tatum, BOS	46	411	243	1192	25.9						
Curry, GS	45	377	194	1163	25.8						
Mitchell, ATL	40	372	148	1020	25.5						
Booker, PHO	41	371	178	1028	25.1						
LaVine, CHI	41	368	170	1024	25.0						
Towns, MIN	42	361	203	1018	24.2						
Brown, BOS	36	313	139	867	24.1						
Beal, WAS	39	346	164	919	23.6						
Harden, BKN	42	284	297	964	23.0						

FG PERCENTAGE		FG FGA		PCT	
Gobert, UTA	237	335	.707		
Allen, CLE	270	392	.689		
Harrell, WAS	219	376	.652		
McGee, PHO	179	275	.651		
Ayton, PHO	205	322	.637		
Poeltl, SA	252	411	.613		
Sabonis, IND	219	553	.577		
Capela, ATL	303	533	.575		
Jokic, DEN	434	760	.571		
Aldridge, BKN	203	363	.559		

REBOUNDS		G OFF DEF TOT		AVG	
Gobert, UTA	42	154	479	633	15.1
Jokic, DEN	43	120	474	594	13.8
Capela, ATL	40	158	342	500	12.5
Sabonis, IND	45	149	392	541	12.0
Valanciunas, NO	43	146	370	516	12.0
Vucevic, CHI	41	82	381	463	11.3
Antikmpo, MIL	41	75	387	463	11.3
Allen, CLE	41	140	309	449	11.0
Nurkic, POR	46	127	373	500	10.9
Embiid, PHI	37	77	320	397	10.7

ASSISTS		G AST		AVG	
Paul, PHO	48	488	108	10.2	
Harden, BKN	42	425	101	9.2	
Young, ATL	44	406	92	9.2	
Murray, SA	45	411	9.1		
Lowry, MIA	39	323	8.3		
Garland, CLE	43	352	8.2		
Jokic, DEN	43	329	7.7		
Ball, CHA	43	327	7.6		
Westbrook, LAL	50	379	7.6		
Haliburton, SAC	46	330	7.2		
through Friday					

NFL PLAYOFFS

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Sunday's games
AFC: No. 4 Cincinnati (12-7) at No. 2 Kansas City (14-5), 3:05 p.m.
NFC: No. 6 San Francisco (12-7) at No. 4 L.A. Rams (14-5), 6:40 p.m.

SUPER BOWL LVI
Sunday, Feb. 13 at SoFi Stadium, Inglewood, Calif.
Conference champions, 6:30 p.m

PLAYOFF TOP PERFORMERS

PASSING	
404:	Patrick Mahomes II, KC vs. PIT 1/16 (30-39, 5 TD)
378:	Patrick Mahomes II, KC vs. BUF 1/23 (OT) (33-44, 3 TD)
366:	Matthew Stafford, LAR at TB 1/23 (28-38, 2 TD)
348:	Joe Burrow, CIN at TEN 1/22 (28-37, 0 TD)
329:	Josh Allen, BUF at KC 1/23 (OT) (27-37, 4 TD)
329:	Tom Brady, TB vs. LAR 1/23 (30-54, 1 TD)
316:	Derek Carr, LAS at CIN 1/15 (29-54, 1 TD)
308:	Josh Allen, BUF vs. NE 1/15 (21-25, 5 TD)
RUSHING	
96:	Elijah Mitchell, SFat DAL 1/16 (27 car., 2 TD)
83:	Josh Jacobs, OAK at CIN 1/15 (13 car, 0 TD)
81:	Devin Singletary, BUF vs. NE 1/15 (16 car, 2 TD)
72:	Deebo Samuel, SF at DAL 1/16 (10 car, TD)
RECEIVING	
201:	Gabriel Davis, BUF at KC 1/23 (OT) (8 rec., 4 TD)
183:	Cooper Kupp, LAR at TB 1/23 (9 rec., 1 TD)
150:	Tyreek Hill, KC vs. BUF 1/23 (OT) (11 rec., 1 TD)
142:	A.J. Brown, TEN vs. CIN 1/22 (5 rec., 1 TD)
129:	Aaron Jones, GB vs. SF 1/22 (9 rec., 0 TD)
119:	Mike Evans, TB vs. LAR 1/23 (8 rec., 1 TD)
117:	Mike Evans, TB vs. PHI 1/16 (9 rec., 1 TD)
116:	Ja'Marr Chase, CIN vs. LAS 1/15 (9 rec., 0 TD)
109:	Ja'Marr Chase, CIN at TEN 1/22 (5 rec., 0 TD)
108:	Travis Kelce, KC vs. PIT 1/16 (5 rec., 1 TD)

NHL									
EASTERN CONFERENCE									
ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA		
Florida	44	30	9	5	65	179	126		
Tampa Bay	44	29	10	5	63	152	125		
Toronto	39	26	10	3	55	133	103		
Boston	41	25	13	3	53	127	112		
Detroit	44	19	19	6	44	121	149		
Buffalo	44	12	22	7	33	111	147		
Ottawa	38	13	21	4	30	106	130		
Montreal	42	8	27	7	23	94	159		
METRO.	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA		
Pittsburgh	44	27	10	7	61	148	116		
Carolina	40	29	9	2	60	143	96		
N.Y. Rangers	45	28	13	4	60	137	118		
Washington	45	24	12	9	57	145	122		
Columbus	41	19	21	1	39	126	148		
N.Y. Islanders	36	15	15	6	36	86	97		
Philadelphia	44	14	22	8	36	110	151		
New Jersey	42	15	22	5	35	120	148		

WESTERN CONFERENCE									
CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA		
Colorado	42	31	8	3	65	177	125		
Nashville	47	27	14	4	58	140	123		
St. Louis	44	26	13	5	57	153	121		
Minnesota	39	26	10	3	55	152	117		
Dallas	41	22	17	2	46	120	126		
Winnipeg	41	18	16	7	43	119	125		
Chicago	44	16	21	7	39	111	148		
PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA		
Anaheim	47	23	16	8	54	140	135		
Vegas	44	25	16	3	53	150	123		
Los Angeles	45	22	16	7	51	127	134		
Calgary	39	20	13	6	46	127	99		
San Jose	43	22	19	2	46	119	132		
Edmonton	39	21	16	2	44	128	130		
Vancouver	43	19	19	5	43	110	120		
Seattle	43	14	25	4	32	114	153		

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
Anaheim 2, Ottawa 1
Philadelphia 4, Los Angeles 3(OT)
Seattle at N.Y. Islanders, late
Winnipeg 4, St. Louis 1
San Jose at Florida, late
Edmonton at Montreal, late
New Jersey at Carolina, late
Toronto at Detroit, late
Vegas at Tampa Bay, late
Buffalo at Arizona, late
Vancouver at Calgary, late

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Los Angeles at Pittsburgh, 1p.m.
Seattle at N.Y. Rangers, 1p.m.
San Jose at Carolina, 5p.m.
Boston at Dallas, 7p.m.
Columbus at Montreal, 7p.m.
Minnesota at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30p.m.
Buffalo at Colorado, 8p.m.

MONDAY'S GAMES
Florida at Columbus, 7p.m.
Anaheim at Detroit, 7:30p.m.
Edmonton at Ottawa, 7:30p.m.
New Jersey at Toronto, 7:30p.m.
Vancouver at Chicago, 7:30p.m.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
Detroit 3, Pittsburgh 2(SO)
Minnesota 3, N.Y. Rangers 2
Colorado 6, Chicago 4
Boston 2, Arizona 1
Washington 5, Dallas 0

TRANSACTIONS

FOOTBALL

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
CINCINNATI BENGALS: Promoted DT Damon Square and WR Trent Taylor to the active roster from the practice squad.
KANSAS CITY CHIEFS: Released CB Damon Arnette following arrest for assault with a deadly weapon.
LOS ANGELES RAMS: Activated LB Ernest Jones from injured reserve. Promoted DBs Eric Weddle and Blake Countess to the active roster from the practice squad.
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS: Activated RB Trenton Cannon from injured reserve. Promoted LB Mark Nzeochi and QB Nate Sudfeld to the active roster from the practice squad. Waived WR River Cracraft.

HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE
ARIZONA: Returned G Cam Dineen to Tucson (AHL) from the taxi squad.
BOSTON: Reassigned G Callum Booth from Maine (ECHL) to Providence (AHL). Recalled G Jeremy Swayman from Providence. Reassigned G Troy Grosenick to the taxi squad from the active roster.
BUFFALO: Placed G Aaron Dell on waivers.
EDMONTON: Assigned C Colton Sceviour to the taxi squad after clearing waivers.
LOS ANGELES: Reassigned Ds Austin Strand and Jacob Moverare to the taxi squad.
N.Y. ISLANDERS: Reassigned LW Collin Adams from Bridgeport (AHL) to Worcester (ECHL).
OTTAWA: Promoted D Lassi Thomson and C Mark Kastelic to the active roster from the practice squad.
SAN JOSE: Reassigned G Edmond Zachary from Orlando (ECHL) to San Jose (AHL). Promoted Zach Sawchenko to the active roster from the practice squad.
VANCOUVER: Recalled D Noah Juulsen from Abbotsford (AHL) to the taxi squad. Reinstated C Bo Horvat from COVID-19 protocol. Promoted G Spencer Martin to the active roster from the taxi squad.
WINNIPEG: Promoted Ds Declan Chisholm to the taxi squad from Manitoba (AHL) and Leon Gawanke and Johnny Kovacic to the active roster from the taxi squad.

AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE

AHL: Suspended Texas D Alex Petrovic for one game for his actions on Jan. 28 in a game against Laval.
BAKERSFIELD: Reassigned F Brayden Watts to Wichita (ECHL) from loan.
COLORADO: Recalled D Andrew Nielsen from Utah (ECHL).
IOWA: Returned F Kris Bennett to Iowa (ECHL) from loan.
PROVIDENCE: Released G Patrick Salak-ind from his amateur tryout contract (ATO).

ODDS

COLLEGE BASKETBALL		SUNDAY	
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	
Cincinnati	5½	at E. Carolina	
at Purdue	10½	Ohio State	
at Wright St.	5½	Purdue Ft. Wn.	
at George Wash.	1½	Fordham	
Cleveland State	2½	at N. Kentucky	
at Wisconsin	11½	Minnesota	
at Bryant	5	LIU	
George Mason	2½	at UMass	
Loyola Chicago	3½	at Drake	
at Bradley	7½	Indiana St.	
at Boston College	3½	Pittsburgh	

NBA FAVORITE		LINE		O/U		SUNDAY UNDERDOG	
at Charlotte	OFF	(OFF)		LA Clippers			
at Atlanta	OFF	(OFF)		LA Lakers			
at Chicago	OFF	(OFF)		Portland			
at Detroit	OFF	(OFF)		Cleveland			
at Milwaukee	OFF	(OFF)		Denver			
at Orlando	OFF	(OFF)		Dallas			
at Phoenix	OFF	(OFF)		San Antonio			
at Minnesota	OFF	(OFF)		Utah			

NFL FAVORITE		LINE
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MEN'S BASKETBALL
Tuesday: Creighton at XL Center, 6:30 p.m., FS1

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Today: at Providence, 7:30 p.m., SNY

UConn
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East Hartford's Shailyn Pinkney (21) is triple teamed by Newington players during their game at East Hartford High School on Friday. East Hartford handed Newington its first loss of the season, 52-37. **CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT**

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

East Hartford girls snap Newington's 31-game win streak

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

EAST HARTFORD - — Shailyn Pinkney couldn't sleep Thursday night.

Pinkney, the East Hartford senior guard who is heading to Seton Hall next fall, was thinking about Friday's game against undefeated Newington and its UMass-bound star Lilly Ferguson, who was averaging 17.2 points per game.

Coming into the game, Newington had a 31-game win streak. The last time the two teams had faced each other was two years ago, and East Hartford lost.

"I've been anxious all day in school thinking about it," Pinkney said.

Once she stepped onto the court at East Hartford High, Pinkney showed no nerves, calmly directing her team to a 52-37 win in a CCC interdivisional girls basketball game.

"It feels great," Pinkney said. "I feel like people underestimated us. We've just been hungry. We've been focusing on this game for so long.

"I felt like I didn't rush anything. I felt like I kept it under control."

It was Newington's first loss in almost two years. Newington (14-1) last lost on Feb. 22, 2020 to Bloomfield in the CCC tournament quarterfinal, 53-42. Newington won two games in the Class L state tournament in 2020 before the season was shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic and went undefeated last season (15-0) in a shortened season with no state tournament.

Pinkney scored 17 points, and East Hartford's defense held Ferguson to six points, all on free throws.

"They're a really good team," Newington coach Marc Tancredi said. "They executed really well against the zone defense. They found the gaps in the zone defense and we just didn't make the adjustments quick enough.

"Defensively, they did a really good job on us, too, with their pressure. I think if we shot the ball a little bit better it would have been a little closer of a margin, I don't know if we would have won the game. We got killed on the boards tonight, too, we gave them a lot of second chance opportunities."

Nia Edens added 16 points for the Hornets (12-1). Freshman Bella Cucuta had 14 points for Newington.

East Hartford jumped out to an early lead in the first quarter. When Pinkney knocked down a 3-pointer with 6:08 left in the second quarter, East Hartford led 17-9. Newington made a run at the end of the first half to cut the lead to 26-18 at halftime. The Nor'easters cut it to 30-27 with 3:40 left in the third on a 3-pointer by Karissa Zocco, but that was as close as Newington would get.

Pinkney hit a layup, then a floater and her final basket of the third quarter gave East Hartford a 40-30 lead.

"What the girls have done is they're buying into each other and that was the difference," East Hartford coach Jon Myette said. "They were able to trust their instincts in certain plays and put themselves out there because they knew they had each other's back.

"Something that sometimes gets overlooked — when we spaced the floor out, we have multiple players who can make plays and I think that makes Shai's job easier as well. She could facilitate and control the tempo more, and everyone else could get to their spots and make their shots."

Pinkney and Ferguson have known each other since fifth grade and played on the same AAU team.

"She can do essentially everything and anything on the basketball court," Tancredi said of Pinkney. "

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MEN'S HOCKEY UCONN 5, YALE 1

Huskies reach final of state tournament

By Dom Amore
Hartford Courant

Kevin O'Neil jumped out onto the ice for his 116th collegiate hockey game Saturday, and he knew this one would not be like the rest.

"It was very weird, honestly," he said. "Just getting ready for the game, never expected to be on the other bench, playing against Yale. I made a lot of good memories with the guys there. I tried to look at it as just another game, but it definitely wasn't."

O'Neil graduated from Yale last year and, with the Ivy League not allowing fifth year students to play, chose UConn to play out his eligibility. He delivered a goal and an assist to start the Huskies on their way to a 5-1 win over Yale in the first game of the Connecticut Ice tournament Saturday at Webster Bank Arena.

UConn (12-10-0) will play either Quinnipiac or Sacred Heart for the title Sunday at 4:30 p.m.

O'Neil has joined Vladislav Firstov and Jachym Kondelik on UConn's first line, and they dominated the game, helping UConn gain a 2-to-1 edge in shots.

"He just brings a lot of energy," UConn coach Mike Cavanaugh said. "He's just a *hockey player*. He's not overly big, not overly fast. He's got good skills, but he just competes so hard on pucks, pucks stick to him. He makes plays, he's in the right place at the right time."

Yale (5-11-1) scored 1:57 into the game as Michael Young poked it in from the slot, but UConn took control of the pace of play shortly thereafter and took the lead with two goals in a 27-second stretch.

O'Neil (four goals, nine assists) made a pretty pass to Firstov for the first goal, and was in the right spot, to the left of the net, to poke in a rebound to give the Huskies the lead.

"Yale came out with a great start and I knew they would," O'Neil said. "I was really happy with the response we had; we stayed with our game plan. Vlad went to the net and Kevin made a great pass."

UConn put it away with three goals in the second period, two

early. One was a deflection off a skate, credited to Carter Turnbull, the other scored by Firstov. After UConn killed off three power plays, Kondelik scored to make it 5-1.

"It's been nice to spend two or three weeks with the same guys," said O'Neil, who scored a game-winner vs. Boston College on Jan. 8. "You do everything with them in practice and it comes with time. We've been talking a lot on the bench, and it has just been fun to play with both those guys [Firstov and Kondelik]. They're very talented and we just try to enjoy it."

The foot of snow on the ground was of no concern to UConn, staying 20 minutes from the rink, but it did keep the crowd down. Sunday should be different.

"I think it's just going to be a good atmosphere for our players, a really good test for us, whoever we play," Cavanaugh said. "Our guys were hungry, they want to play in a championship game."

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HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP

Conard's Sherry wins Millrose Games mile

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

Conard senior Gavin Sherry became the second runner from Connecticut since 1974 to win the Millrose Games boys high school mile Saturday afternoon at The Armory in New York City.

Sherry also broke the meet record, finishing in 4:06.58, the fastest mile time of the season for high school boys in the country. The former record holder was Noah Affolder of Carlisle, Pa. (4:07.24, 2017).

Sherry ran his previous best mile time of 4:06.72 at the U.S. Air Force Hispanic Games in early January. He had finished second at the Millrose Games as a sophomore in 2020, the last time the Games were held.

Gavin's twin brother Callum finished seventh in 4:13.47, his second best time indoors. Both of the Sherrys will attend Stanford next year.

Xavier's JT Burke was the only other state mile winner at the Millrose Games, finishing in 4:11.94 in 1989.

Bloomfield girls basketball forfeits season

The Bloomfield girls basketball team will not play a varsity schedule for the rest of the season and has forfeited its remaining 10 games due to lack of players, athletic director Tammy Schondelmayer said.

The team, which only had nine girls on the roster at the start of the season, was down to five players after Tuesday's loss to Manchester.

Two players had quit since the start of the season and others were knocked out by COVID-19 and injuries. The Warhawks didn't play the first week of January because they only had four players. Two were out with concussions and one player was out with COVID-19, Schondelmayer said. After observing the protocols for having a concussion, one of the players came back and Bloomfield was able to play with five players, many of whom were experienced basketball players.

"We were willing to do it, to get through our season," Schondelmayer said.



Conard's Gavin Sherry, shown here winning the State Open 1,600 last June. **KASSI JACKSON PHOTO**

mayer said.

The other two players returned and Bloomfield had seven in Tuesday's game against Manchester. But one player got another concussion, her second, and another broke her finger and neither were expected to return. Two of the five players left were inexperienced freshmen.

"Now we're not willing to do it, it's not fair and it's not safe," Schondelmayer said. "I really wanted it to be different, I wanted the finger to be jammed and the concussion to be a bump on the head.

"The last thing we want to do is forfeit. The last thing we want to do is be in this situation."

Bloomfield was 2-7 before the forfeits.

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UConn

from Page 1

heading into UConn's sole remaining nonconference matchup Feb. 6 versus Tennessee. Turnovers are still an issue (20 against DePaul), and there are always strides to be made defensively and the post players could stand to be more effective on both ends. UConn collapsed in the second quarter Wednesday, allowing DePaul to go on a 21-2 run. Though the Huskies bounced back, stretches like that are tougher to recover from against better teams.

Now the healthiest they've been since November, the Huskies (12-4, 7-0 Big East) will look to further solidify their identity against Providence (9-10, 4-6) Sunday at 7:30 p.m. With a win they will earn their longest win streak of the season, four games.

Here's what else you need to

know about the matchup:

Site: Alumni Hall
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Series: UConn leads, 41-21
Last meeting: No. 3 UConn 87, Providence 50, Jan. 9, 2021, in Storrs, Conn.
TV: SNY (Meghan Culmo, Allen Bestwick, Maria Marino)
Stream: In-market SNY viewers with access to the network can watch via the NBC Sports app: <http://stream.nbcsports.com/rsn/sny>. Out-of-market viewers can watch on the Fox Sports App or at <https://www.foxsports.com/> as well as on the FOX Now app or at www.fox.com/sports. The games might not appear on those sites until right around tipoff.
Radio: UConn IMG Sports Network on 97.9 ESPN (Bob Joyce, Debbie Fiske)
Providence's probable starters, sixth man: Janai Crooms, G, 5-10,

Jr.; Alyssa Geary, F, 6-4, Sr.; Kylee Sheppard, G, 5-9, Fr.; Mary Baskerville, F, 6-3, Sr.; Lauren Sampson, G/F, 6-0, Jr.; Emily Archibald, F, 6-0, Fr.
UConn probable starters, sixth man: Olivia Nelson-Ododa, F, 6-5, Sr.; Dorka Juhász, F, 6-5, Gr.; Christyn Williams, G, 5-11, Sr.; Nika Mühl, G, 5-10, So.; Caroline Ducharme, G, 6-2, Fr.; Azzi Fudd, G, 5-11, Fr.

The matchup

UConn's offense: Ducharme, Fudd and Williams were the stars of the show last time out against DePaul, with each contributing at least 15 points. Ducharme and Fudd proved they can be clutch when the team needs a bucket, helping the Huskies withstand a tough Blue Demons team on the road. Ducharme is averaging a team-high 17.1 points per game since the team lost Bueckers.

UConn's defense: The Huskies typically get it done on the defensive end, allowing 58.9 points per game on 37.1% shooting. They had trouble at times slowing down DePaul, which scored 78 points on 42.9% shooting, and especially freshman forward Aneesah Morrow (30 points).
Providence's offense: Providence scores a paltry 61.4 points per game — the third worst mark in the Big East — on 41.0% shooting. Crooms is their leading scorer with 13.1 points per game. The Friars are turnover-prone, committing 18.7 per game.
Providence's defense: The Friars' defense is better than their offense, allowing 63.1 points per game on 36.1% shooting, the best field goal percentage defense in the league. They are also one of the most prolific blocking teams in the country, with Baskerville recording nearly three blocks per game on her own. Crooms is the Friars'

best rebounder with 9.1 boards per contest.
UConn keys: Force turnovers and get out in transition; control the glass; hit shots from the perimeter
Players to watch: How does Geno Auriemma distribute minutes and manage lineups with his newly robust backcourt? He finally has five guards to work with for the first time since November.
About Providence's coach: Jim Crowley is in his sixth season at Providence and is seeking his second winning season in the program (he guided the Friars to a 19-16 record in 2018-19).
Providence's mascot: Friar Dom
Famous alumni: NBA coach Billy Donovan, producer/director Peter Farrelly, comedian Janeane Garofalo

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Did you know?

The US Consumer Products Safety Commission (USCPSC) reports that - each year - snow blower operators suffer more than 500 amputations and over 5,000 emergency room visits.

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2022 BEIJING WINTER OLYMPICS

Ultimate guide to Team USA athletes with Connecticut ties

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

The 2022 Winter Olympics open Friday in Beijing, China. and a number of U.S. athletes with Connecticut ties will be competing, including three-time Olympic luger Tucker West of Ridgefield and Kristen Santos, a speed skater from Fairfield who qualified for the Winter Games for the first time.

The only U.S. athletes with state ties to win a medal previously are snowboarder Lindsey Jacobellis, who grew up in Roxbury, and ice hockey star Hilary Knight, a 2007 Choate Rosemary Hall graduate.

Jacobellis, a five-time Olympian, infamously won a silver medal in 2006 in snowboard cross after prematurely celebrating what she thought would be a gold medal run and falling. Knight helped the U.S. women's ice hockey team win its first gold medal since 1998 in 2018. Knight, a four-time Olympian, has also won two silver medals with the U.S. team.

Viewers guide

This year, the Olympics will once again be broadcasted by NBCUniversal and will be televised on its networks, including NBC and USA Network. Viewers can access Olympic coverage by purchasing Peacock or Hulu premium packages or via FuboTV or Sling TV.

A limited amount of fans will be allowed to attend the Winter Games due to strict COVID-19 protocols in Beijing. No foreign spectators will be allowed. Tickets are not on sale to the general public in China, and officials have announced that only "selected" spectators will be able to attend.

The NHL announced in December that their players will not be allowed to attend due to COVID-19 concerns and that the Olympic break would be used to make up games that had been postponed due to COVID outbreaks. As a result, the U.S. hockey team is the youngest group to take the ice since 1994.

There will be seven new events in the Winter Games, such as women's monobob, men's and women's Big Air in freestyle skiing. There is also a number of mixed team events, including a snowboard cross relay, a short-track speedskating relay, and team events in ski jumping and freestyle skiing aeri

Additional programming notes: NBCUniversal will broadcast 200 hours of coverage, either live on NBC and its networks or through Peacock. USA Network will also have coverage from Feb. 2-20. Curling will start Feb. 2, two days before the Opening Ceremony and NBC will televise other events starting before the Opening Ceremony on Feb. 3.

The Opening Ceremony will be televised live at 6:30 a.m. ET on Feb 4 and shown again from 8-11 p.m. ET on NBC and Peacock. The Olympics will end Feb. 20 with a televised closing ceremony.

Since the Olympics are in China, all events will be 13 hours ahead of local time in the Eastern time zone. For instance, an event held at 10 a.m. local time on Tuesday would be at 9 p.m. ET on Monday.

Here's how to follow the members of the U.S. Olympic team with Connecticut ties:

Team USA Women's Hockey

Athlete: Hilary Knight
Connecticut ties: 2007 Choate Rosemary Hall graduate.
Up next: Women's Preliminary Round: USA vs. Finland, Thursday, 8:10 a.m. ET
How to watch: NBC, USA Network, CNBC; Streaming on NBC Sports app, NBCOlympics.com and Peacock
Fun facts: Knight was once the youngest player on the U.S. women's Olympic team at age 20 in 2010. Now, she is the oldest at age 32. ... She played for the Connecticut-based Polar Bears hockey team as a teen. ... Her cousin, Chip Knight, is a three-time Olympic downhill skier. ... Knight has two English bulldogs, Bane and Baloo.

Team USA Men's Hockey

Athletes: Kenny Agostino, Strauss Mann, Brian O'Neill
Connecticut ties: Agostino and O'Neill went to Yale. Mann is from Greenwich and played at the Brunswick School in Greenwich, graduating in 2017.
Up next: Men's Preliminary Round: USA vs. China, Feb. 10, 8:10 a.m. ET
How to watch: NBC, USA Network,



For Hilary Knight, right, a stop at Choate in Wallingford helped put her in position to become an Olympian. Now 32, she'll be playing in her fourth Games. Meanwhile, Suffield's Emily Sweeney, above, is back. She crashed in 2018 and is out to make up for it in Beijing. **AP PHOTOS**



After just missing out on the 2018 U.S. team, Fairfield's Kristen Santos has a medal in 500-meter short track speedskating in her sights.



Strauss Mann from Greenwich is just one of many to get an Olympic shot when the NHL backed out.



Somers native Hannah Soar is ranked No. 3 in the world in freestyle moguls skiing. And she could provide one the state's best chances at a medal.



Madison's Zach Donahue and his partner, Madison Hubbell, have been together as a top U.S. ice dancing team for 10 years.

CNBC; Streaming on NBC Sports app, NBCOlympics.com and Peacock
Fun facts: Mann went to the University of Michigan, where he was the first goalie to be named captain in 78 years. He currently leads the Swedish Hockey League in goals against average (1.77) and save percentage (.930). ... Agostino was a member of Yale's 2013 NCAA championship team and was the third freshman in school history to record a hat trick in 2011. He played with six NHL clubs in eight seasons and now plays in the KHL (Kontinental Hockey League). ... O'Neill, the lone returning Olympian on the team, plays for a team from Helsinki for the KHL. He has a twin brother Brennan and was voted "most humorous" by his Yale teammates.

Nathan Chen

Sport: Figure Skating
Connecticut tie: Chen grew up in Salt Lake City and started as a Yale student in 2018. He took a leave of absence from Yale after his sophomore year to focus on training for the 2022 Winter Olympics.
Up next: Team Event: Men Single Skating, Short Program, Thursday, 8:55 p.m. ET
How to watch: NBC, USA Network; Streaming on NBC Sports app, NBCOlympics.com and Peacock
Fun facts: Chen has won three world titles (2018-19, 2021) and six straight U.S. titles (2017-2022) in men's figure skating. ... He plans to return to Yale in the fall of 2022, where he is majoring in statistics and data science and hopes to attend medical school. ... Chen competed in gymnastics for seven years at the state and regional level

and trained in ballet with Ballet West Academy. ... He loves biking, reading, playing the guitar and watching NHL, Formula One and MotoGP.

Alex Deibold

Sport: Men's Snowboard Cross
Connecticut tie: Born in New Haven and grew up in Branford.
Up next: Men's Snowboard Cross seedings, Feb. 9, 10:15 p.m. ET
How to watch: NBC, USA Network; Streaming on NBC Sports app, NBCOlympics.com and Peacock
Fun facts: Deibold won a bronze medal in snowboard cross at the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games. ... He started snowboarding at age 4. ... Deibold entered first slopestyle snowboard contest at age 8. ... His hobbies include cycling, surfing, rock climbing, backpacking and golf.

Zach Donohue

Sport: Figure Skating Ice Dancing
Connecticut tie: Donohue was born in Hartford and grew up in Madison.
Up next: Team Event: Ice Dance, Rhythm Dance, Thursday, 10:41 p.m. ET
How to watch: NBC, USA Network; Streaming on NBC Sports app, NBCOlympics.com and Peacock
Fun facts: Donohue and his ice dancing partner Madison Hubbell have been skating together for 10 years. At the beginning, they didn't like each other but ended up dating each other for 2 1/2 years. They broke up before the 2018 Olympics but continued competing with each other. ... They are one of the tallest ice dancing teams in the world (Donohue is 6 feet 3 and Hubbell is 5-8. ... Donohue enjoys singing and

can play the bass, guitar and drums.

Lindsey Jacobellis

Sport: Women's Snowboard Cross
Connecticut tie: Grew up in Roxbury.
Up next: Women's Snowboard Cross seedings, Feb. 8, 10 p.m. ET
How to watch: NBC, USA Network; Streaming on NBC Sports app, NBCOlympics.com and Peacock
Fun facts: Jacobellis will tie a record for the most Winter Olympic appearances by a female athlete with her fifth appearance at the Beijing Winter Games. ... When she's not snowboarding, Jacobellis likes to surf in California.

Julia Marino

Sport: Women's Snowboard Slopestyle, Big Air
Connecticut tie: Grew up in Westport, went to St. Joseph in Trumbull but left before she graduated to compete.
Up next: Women's Snowboard Slopestyle qualifications, Friday, 9:45 p.m.
How to watch: NBC, USA Network; Streaming on NBC Sports app, NBCOlympics.com and Peacock
Fun facts: Marino won a gold in slopestyle in her first X Games in 2017. ... She started snowboarding when she broke a ski at age 12 on vacation. ... In 2013, her St. Joseph soccer team won the Class LL state championship. ... She competed in the 2018 Olympic Games in PyeongChang, South Korea.

Emily Sweeney

Sport: Women's Luge
Connecticut tie: Grew up in Suffield, graduated from Suffield High in 2011.

Up next: Women's Singles Run 1, Feb. 7, 6:50 a.m. ET
How to watch: NBC, USA Network; Streaming on NBC Sports app, NBCOlympics.com and Peacock
Fun facts: Sweeney's older sister Megan beat her in a race-off in Norway by 2/10ths of a second for a spot on the 2010 Olympic team. Sweeney started to compete in luge at age 10 in Lake Placid, New York. ... She played lacrosse at Suffield High but also attended the National Sports Academy in Lake Placid. ... She loves okra and learned how to use a chainsaw last year.

Tucker West

Sport: Men's Luge
Connecticut tie: Grew up in Ridgefield.
Up next: Men's Singles Run 1, Saturday, 6:10 a.m. ET
How to watch: NBC, USA Network; Streaming on NBC Sports app, NBCOlympics.com and Peacock
Fun facts: When West was 6, his dad Brett made him a luge track with a sound system, lights and timing equipment in their backyard in Ridgefield. ... Before West's first Olympic appearance in 2014, his father went on "Today" and told a national audience that his then-18-year-old son was "very single," which resulted in nearly two dozen marriage proposals for Tucker and a smattering of prom date requests. ... West attended the National Sports Academy in Lake Placid, New York and got his bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Florida last year.

Olivia Giaccio

Sport: Women's Freestyle Skiing Moguls
Connecticut tie: Grew up in Redding.
Up next: Women's Moguls qualifications, Thursday, 5 a.m. ET
How to watch: NBC, USA Network; Streaming on NBC Sports app, NBCOlympics.com and Peacock
Fun facts: Giaccio, 21, won her first World Cup in Finland in early December. ... She was named to the U.S. Olympic team on Jan. 18. ... She went to Stanford University Online High School and is a student at Columbia University. ... She likes to cook, draw and paint.

Hannah Soar

Sport: Women's Freestyle Skiing Moguls
Connecticut tie: Grew up in Somers.
Up next: Women's Moguls qualifications, Thursday, 5 a.m. ET
How to watch: NBC, USA Network; Streaming on NBC Sports app, NBCOlympics.com and Peacock
Fun facts: Soar grew up skiing at Killington with her parents, where, by age 3 1/2, she was exploring all the trails on the mountain. ... She also enjoys skinning (skiing up mountains), riding the spring bumps at Killington and gravel biking. ... Soar played varsity soccer as a freshman at Somers High but switched to Killington Mountain School full time her junior year of high school.

Mac Forehand

Sport: Men's Freestyle Skiing Slopestyle/Big Air
Connecticut tie: Grew up in Fairfield.
Up next: Men's Freeski Big Air qualifications, Feb. 7, 12:30 a.m. ET
How to watch: NBC, USA Network; Streaming on NBC Sports app, NBCOlympics.com and Peacock
Fun facts: Forehand likes to skateboard and mountain bike. He volunteers for the Pan Mass Challenge, a 200-mile bike ride across Massachusetts, the largest cancer fundraiser in the country. ... He became the first student in the 47-year history of the Stratton Mountain Ski School to win the Crystal Globe as the overall slopestyle champion in the FIS Freeski World Cup as a 17-year-old.

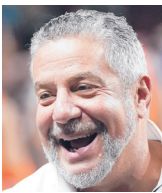
Kristen Santos

Sport: Women's Short Track Speedskating
Connecticut tie: Grew up in Fairfield, graduated from Fairfield Warde High School in 2012.
Up next: Women's 500-meter heats, Saturday, 6 a.m.
How to watch: NBC, USA Network; Streaming on NBC Sports app, NBCOlympics.com and Peacock
Fun facts: Santos once figure skated at the same rink in Cromwell as fellow 2022 Winter Olympian Zach Donohue, an ice dancer. ... She started speedskating at Yale. ... Santos played soccer and ran track at Fairfield Warde. ... She has two Huskies named Bear and Koda.

NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

SHORTS

Auburn gives Pearl 8-year contract



Auburn coach Bruce Pearl stands to make more than \$50 million under a new eight-year contract. Athletic director Allen Greene announced terms of the deal on Saturday, hours before the top-ranked Tigers squared up against Oklahoma at Auburn Arena. Greene and Pearl had announced an agreement on social media Friday without releasing any terms. Pearl's pay will start at \$5.4 million with a \$250,000 annual increase that would allow him to make \$7.15 million in the final year of the deal. He led Auburn to the Final Four in 2019, and the Tigers received their first-ever No. 1 ranking this week. "By leading Auburn's men's basketball program to unprecedented heights, coach Bruce Pearl has earned this contract extension that's commensurate with his level of achievement within the Southeastern Conference," Greene said in a statement. "We are thrilled to agree on terms that will keep BP on the Plains for many years to come while investing in his assistant coaches and support staff." Auburn has the best overall record in the SEC over the last five years.

Weah out for US due to vaccine issue



U.S. forward Timothy Weah was unable to travel to Canada for Sunday's World Cup qualifier because he did not meet the vaccination requirements to cross the Canadian border, coach Gregg Berhalter said Saturday. Weah, who was involved in the play that led to the only goal in Thursday's 1-0 victory over El Salvador, has received one vaccine dose and was infected with COVID-19 before he could receive his second shot, Berhalter said. Weah meets the vaccination standards in France, where he plays professionally, but is unable to enter Canada, Berhalter said. "This is something we can't control, the nuances of the COVID protocol, and we just have to deal with it," Berhalter said. "It will be about the next man stepping up and doing their job." Berhalter said the team became aware of Weah's situation "a couple of days ago" and had hoped it could be resolved before Sunday's game. "This was a nuanced technicality that we were hoping was going to get pushed through and, unfortunately, it didn't," Berhalter said. Canada is undefeated through nine games.

Flag Football eyes '28 Olympics spot

The NFL is helping wave the flag for flag football to become part of the Olympics. The target is the 2028 Summer Games in Los Angeles. Flag football is one of the faster growing options for the sport, both within this country and worldwide. There currently are 71 nations on five continents that are members of the International Federation of American Football, and the flag version will be among 30 sports on display at the World Games in July in Birmingham, Alabama — a key step in popularizing the game. "It is important, with the Olympics as an ultimate goal," says Pierre Trochet, IFAF's president, "but we also have a task in growing and having a solid competition plan over the next five, six, seven years on every continent. The Olympics are the biggest global stage for sports in the world. Flag football can be played by men and women and also be coed, it's easy to integrate and safe to play." Entry onto the Olympic docket is not easy, though. Having the NFL's power and popularity behind flag football certainly could make the IOC and Los Angeles Games organizers pay heed. Competition to be accepted for the Olympics could be tough, with baseball and softball expected to return after sitting out 2024 in Paris. —Associated Press



The United States is the defending Olympic champion after beating Canada in a nail-biting 3-2 shootout win in South Korea to end Canada's run of four straight gold medals. AP FILE

WINTER OLYMPICS PREVIEWS WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY

Bordering on gold

US eager to resume intense rivalry with the Canadians

By John Wawrow
Associated Press

Forward **Brianna Decker** was unable to contain her enthusiasm in being selected to represent the United States in hockey for a third Olympics. She then bluntly declared the team's one and only objective heading to the Beijing Games next month.

"Our business isn't finished until we come back with a gold medal," Decker said.

Though she didn't have to say it, Canada — who else? — is standing in their way.

"I don't know if it's unfinished business, we've got business," Canada coach **Troy Ryan** said when informed of Decker's comments. "We're going there as business as usual and we're trying to win the gold."

One of sports' fiercest rivalries is set to resume when the 10-nation tournament opens on Feb. 3.

The United States is the defending Olympic champion after beating Canada in a nail-biting 3-2 shootout win in South Korea in 2018 to end Canada's run of four Olympic titles. And yet, Canada is the reigning world champion after punching back with a 3-2 overtime win in August to end USA's run of five consecutive titles.

"Yeah, it's been a while since we've lost to them," Decker said. "It's really a sad thing, but you know, sometimes you've got to lose to get a little bit more out of your team and out of yourself"

"To be honest," countered Canada's captain **Marie-Philip Poulin**, "it's

going to be fun." And intense.

It was no surprise to anyone when the pushing, shoving and cross-checking resumed almost immediately at Allentown, Pennsylvania, in October in their first meeting after the world championships.

"Yeah, and you know what the best part is? We have them eight more times," American forward **Kendall Coyne Schofield** said with a laugh, referring to what was supposed to be a nine-game Rivalry Series. It was cut to six games after the Canadians experienced a COVID-19 breakout.

Canada finished the shortened series going 4-1-1 against the Americans, with four games decided by one goal, and three in overtime.

Encouraging as the results were, they meant little to Ryan, who noted: "If you look at the history of these events and the results at the Olympics, there's no positive correlation often."

At first glance, Canada appears to have the advantage with speed and experience, playing an up-tempo, transition attack Ryan introduced upon taking over in August 2019. His system places an emphasis on play-making defenders turning up ice and finding open players in the neutral zone to set up odd-man breaks.

The U.S. relies more on a puck-control offensive style to set up in-close chances from **Hilary Knight** and **Alex Carpenter**, who returns after being left off the 2018 roster.

Barring what would be considered a major upset, the rest of the field continues playing catchup at the women's level, with Finland, Switzerland, Russia and potentially the

up-and-coming Czech Republic vying for bronze.

The Finns beat Switzerland to win bronze at the world championships. At the 2019 world championships on home soil, Finland upset Canada in the semifinals and came a disallowed goal in overtime away from beating the Americans before settling for the silver.

"If we play 10 games in a row, we're not going to be the winning candidate in all of them," Finland GM **Tuula Puputti** said. "But then we showed two years ago, when the right game comes in the right moment it can happen. So I think it was really a confidence booster."

Decades of dominance

The U.S. and Canada have met in the final of 19 of 20 world championships, with Canada winning 11 titles to America's eight. Twelve gold-medal games have been decided by one goal, with nine in overtime or shootouts. The two nations have met in the final of five of six Olympic tournaments, with the exception of the 2006 Torino Games, when Canada defeated Sweden, and the U.S. won bronze.

Olympic debuts

Denmark and the Czech Republic will make their first Winter Games' appearances after winning qualifying tournaments in November. The Czechs, who went 3-0, are considered strong contenders with a youth-laden roster that includes six players currently at U.S. colleges. Sweden is making its sixth Olympic appearance. It defeated France 1-0 to clinch its pool after facing

WINTER OLYMPICS PREVIEWS

Men's ice hockey

By Stephen Whyno
Associated Press

When the National Hockey League and its players agreed to pause the season and participate in the 2022 Winter Olympics, it came with the caveat of pandemic conditions not making it impractical to go to China.

Seven weeks before puck drop at what was supposed to be the first Olympics with NHL players since 2014, the league pulled the plug amid a rash of postponements for coronavirus-related reasons. Instead of getting the world's best on Olympic ice for the sixth time since 1998, the tournament will now feature players from the college ranks in the U.S., professional leagues across Europe and the minors in North America.

The Russians are again favored to win gold after beating Germany in the 2018 final, thanks to the talent coming from the home-based Kontinental Hockey League that will shut down for the Olympics. The lack of NHL players throws even more uncertainty into the competition and the U.S., Canada, Finland and Sweden are all thinking they have a realistic chance of winning.

"You look at the 2018 Olympics, it was just very competitive — there was a lot of parity," U.S. coach **David Quinn** said. "The Russians are perceived to be the team with a leg up on everybody just because of the KHL, but they had a hard time (four years ago) with Germany in the gold-medal game. I just think it's going to be a very, very competitive tournament."

Four years since the Russians — known as the "Olympic Athletes from Russia" — emerged with gold, Germany silver and Canada bronze, things look wide open.



Russia's Vyacheslav Voynov (27) celebrates with his teammates after scoring his side's second goal during the Channel One Cup ice hockey match between Russia and Finland on Dec. 19 in Moscow. ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO/AP

Canadian might

Canada will not have **Connor McDavid**, **Sidney Crosby** and **Nathan Mackinnon** on the same team for the first time as it attempts to win its third gold in the last four Olympics. But the hockey-crazed nation does have a legitimate shot to win thanks to some players with recent NHL experience. **Eric Staal** is by far the most experienced and accomplished player expected to take part in the tournament: a veteran of almost 1,400 NHL games who played for Montreal in the Stanley Cup Final last summer. He is already one of just 29 players in the Triple Gold Club as winners of the Stanley Cup, an Olympic gold medal and world championship gold medal. Staal could wear the "C" as Canada's captain 12 years after the home ice triumph at the Vancouver Olympics that was capped off by Crosby's famous golden goal to beat the U.S. in overtime. Other recent NHL players expected to play for Canada include goaltender **Devan Dubnyk**, defenseman **Jason Demers** and forward **Eric Fehr**. Former Canadiens coach **Claude Julien** is expected to be behind the bench.

Mix-and-match US

The U.S. is hoping a balance of young college stars and experienced pros in the American Hockey League and Europe adds up to its first Olympic men's hockey medal since 2010. That means the likes of North Dakota's **Jake Sanderson** and Michigan's **Matty Beniers** playing alongside recent former NHL players **Kenny Agostino**, **Steven Kamperfer** and **Aaron Ness**. That's a far cry from **Auston Matthews**, **Patrick Kane** and **Seth Jones** sharing the ice in what the Olympics were supposed to look like, but the expectations are still high internally.

Russian redux

The Russians in 2018 were an All-Star team compared to the rest of the tournament, with soon-to-be Hockey Hall of Famer **Pavel Datsyuk** and longtime NHL sniper **Ilya Kovalchuk** skating with two-time Cup champion **Slava Voynov** and now-Minnesota Wild star **Kirill Kaprizov**. The 2022 team isn't as star-studded, but Voynov is back, along with KHL leading scorer **Vadim Shipachyov** and former NHL forward **Mikhail Grigorenko**. After getting shut out of medals in the five Olympics with NHL players — despite **Alex Ovechkin**, **Evgeni Malkin** and the tournament on home ice in 2014 — no country benefits more from the NHL not showing up than Russia.

China's shot

China will take part in men's hockey at the Olympics for the first time as the host country. The team is made up of some homegrown talent and "heritage" players from the U.S., Canada and elsewhere who signed up years ago to represent China in this tournament. Goalie **Jeremy Smith** and defenseman **Jake Chelios** are American. Captain **Brandon Yip**, defenseman **Ryan Sproul** and forward **Spencer Foo** are Canadian. They've formed a bond they think will help once play begins.

NFL CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES



AFC
Cincinnati Bengals (12-7) at Kansas City Chiefs (14-5)
3 p.m. Sunday, CBS | GEHA Field at Arrowhead Stadium

BREAKING IT DOWN

Fireworks show

Mahomes. Hill. Kelce. Burrow. Chase. Mixon. The road to the Super Bowl may be paved with points — and lots of them.

Opening line: Chiefs by 7, according to FanDuel SportsBook.
Series record: Bengals lead 16-14.
Last meeting: Bengals beat Chiefs 34-31 on Jan. 2 in Cincinnati.
Last week: Bengals beat Titans 19-16; Chiefs beat Bills 42-36.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

Bengals: WR Ja'Marr Chase made just about every defense look foolish this season, catching 81 passes for 1,455 yards and 13 touchdowns. A disproportionate number of all those came in Week 17 against Kansas City, when Joe Burrow found him 11 times for 266 yards and three TDs in a 34-31 win.
Chiefs: CBs Charvarius Ward and L'Jarius Sneed need to play better than they did last week against Buffalo, when Josh Allen shredded them in the second half of a shootout. That's because they won't just be dealing with Chase but also Tee Higgins and Tyler Boyd.

KEY MATCHUP

Chiefs QB Patrick Mahomes against the Bengals' poorly ranked pass defense: Mahomes had a relatively pedestrian game, at least by his standards, with 259 yards passing and two TDs against Cincinnati near the end of the regular season. So far, Mahomes has thrown for 404 yards and five TDs against Pittsburgh and 378 and three TDs against Buffalo in the playoffs.

STATS AND STUFF

The AFC North champion Bengals beat the Raiders 26-19 in the wild-card game, then needed a winning 52-yard field goal from rookie Evan McPherson to beat the top-seeded Titans last Saturday. ... The AFC West champion Chiefs are hosting a championship game for a record fourth straight year. The Raiders (1973-77), Bills (1990-93) and Patriots (2011-18) are the only others to make at least four straight title game appearances. ... Kansas City is trying to reach its third straight Super Bowl, which would match the second-longest streak in NFL history. ... The Raiders win was the first in the postseason for the Bengals in three decades. The win at Nashville was their first on the road in the playoffs in team history.

— Associated Press

Bengals rookie wide receiver Ja'Marr Chase hauled in 81 receptions for 1,455 yards and 13 touchdowns in the regular season after reuniting with LSU teammate Joe Burrow.
EMILEE CHINN/AP



BY THE NUMBERS
Bengals offense: overall (13), rush (23), pass (7), scoring (t-7)
Bengals defense: overall (18), rush (5), pass (26), scoring (17)
Chiefs offense: overall (3), rush (16), pass (4), scoring (4)
Chiefs defense: overall (27), rush (21), pass (27), scoring (8)
Turnover differential: Bengals 0; Chiefs plus-4

Quarterback Patrick Mahomes is looking to take his Chiefs to a third straight Super Bowl. REED HOFFMANN/AP



NFC
San Francisco 49ers (12-7) at Los Angeles Rams (14-5)
6:30 p.m. Sunday, FOX | SoFi Stadium, Inglewood, Calif.

BREAKING IT DOWN

Familiar foes

Can Rams — losers of 6 straight to their northern neighbors — finally solve Deebo Samuel and the San Francisco puzzle?

Opening line: Rams by 3 1/2, according to FanDuel SportsBook.
Series record: 49ers lead 75-67-3.
Last meeting: 49ers beat Rams 27-24 (OT) on Jan. 9 in Inglewood, California.
Last week: 49ers beat Packers 13-10; Rams beat Buccaneers 30-27.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

49ers: WR Deebo Samuel. The Niners' offense revolves around Samuel either as a receiver or a runner. Samuel has 1,963 yards from scrimmage in the regular season and playoffs, with 1,487 yards receiving and 476 yards on the ground. Samuel is averaging 6.0 yards per carry and 17.9 yards per reception, and has scored 15 TDs on the season. Samuel has also thrown a TD pass and returned a kick last week for 45 yards to set up a score.
Rams: DT Aaron Donald. The most dominant defensive player of his era was moved to tears by the Rams' playoff loss in Green Bay last year. Late in his eighth NFL season, the seven-time All-Pro realizes the opportunities to win a ring dwindle each year, and his teammates say they're playing for No. 99. After making a minimal impact on the Rams' first two meetings with San Francisco this season (no sacks, one QB hit, three tackles for loss), Donald can help his cause by slowing the 49ers' solid rushing attack and generating pressure on QB Jimmy Garoppolo.



After languishing in Detroit most of his career, Rams quarterback Matthew Stafford is one win away from the Super Bowl. ALEX MENENDEZ/AP

KEY MATCHUP

Rams offensive line against Niners defensive line: San Francisco's secret to success against Matthew Stafford this season has been seven men in coverage and a four-man defensive front somehow still creating pressure. The Niners have blitzed on just 14% of the Rams' plays, but have still generated pressure on Stafford on 41% of the passing downs — with the front four winning its battles with LA's protection schemes. Stafford excels against blitzes, but he needs time and space to get the ball downfield consistently against thick coverage shells.

STATS AND STUFF

The 49ers have made the NFC championship game the last five times they made the playoffs. San Francisco's 17 appearances since the merger are the most in the NFL. ... Sean McVay is the winningest coach in Rams postseason history after getting his fifth victory last week.

— Associated Press

49ers wide receiver Deebo Samuel caught 77 passes for 1,405 yards and six touchdowns and had 59 rushes for 365 yards and eight touchdowns during the regular season. KYUSUNG GONG/AP

Hartford Courant

CTHOME

& REAL ESTATE



Regardless of your budget, pairing a candle and candleholder benefits from experimentation and unlikely couplings. EKATERINA GONCHAROVA/GETTY

BURN THESE AFTER READING

With home improvements on upswing, candles make a resurgence

By Anthony Rotunno
The New York Times

Between 400,000 and 1 million years ago, our ancestors made fire. This one creation changed the course of daily life, and it would take yet another few hundred thousand more years, according to the National Candle Association in Washington, D.C., for candles to appear. Candles and candlesticks have since become fixtures of religious observances, a decorative note in homes and restaurants, and lighting them up has turned into a soothing personal ritual for many.

With home improvements on the upswing, candles (and candlesticks) have found a resurgence, as people are investing in these rather small but impactful additions.

People who sell candles have noticed. “Tapers are absolutely a top-selling gift item,” said Sandeep Salter, owner of Salter House, a home goods store in Brooklyn, referring to the candles that come to mind when you picture candlesticks.

The 7-inch-tall Twisted Beeswax Taper candles (\$14 for two) are particularly popular at her shop, Salter said. “I think people have incorporated the ceremoniousness of candle lighting at mealtime into more of an everyday practice; like many other places in the world, it’s no longer being held exclusively for big holiday tables.”

For those in the market, there are several types of candles to choose from. In addition to tapers, which are thin, cylindrical and more slender toward one end, there are pillar candles, which

have more heft and girth, requiring a candlestick with a wider space to insert or support them. Votive candles are smaller than pillars and tapers, and tea lights smaller still. Neither are typically much to look at on their own, but their holders can be no less exquisite as other candlesticks.

While you can pay a lot for a candle, you don’t have to: Thrift stores and resale sites such as eBay can be a treasure trove for finding them at a discount and in bulk. Candleholders can be inexpensive, too. There is the classic beatnik approach, sticking a taper in an old Chianti bottle or even carving a hole in a potato (or apple) — anything that keeps a candle upright and can catch the melting wax will work in a pinch.

Regardless of your budget, pairing a candle and candleholder benefits from experimentation and unlikely couplings.

Candelabras, candlesticks and holders

The Murano-adjacent Candy Glass Short candlesticks (\$135 for two) are 4 inches tall and available in four candy-shop-inspired colorways. Areaware’s 2.5-inch-tall Terrace Candle Holder (\$35), sold in three shades, is also made of glass and does double duty: one side can hold a votive candle, and the other, a taper.

Designed by Philippe Starck for Baccarat, the glass-and-crystal Harcourt Firestick (\$1,220) is a favorite of Kathy Hilton. With the RW Guild Reed Candlestick (from \$210), options abound. It is sold in eight heights, ranging from 2.5 to 16.25 inches tall, and three finishes, including silver and

two brass treatments — an assortment that recalls the variety of Ted Muehling’s Biedermeier Candlesticks for E.R. Butler & Co. (from \$250), which is available in 19 sizes, starting at 3 inches tall, and five metallic finishes.

Technically a candelabra, Virginia Sin’s two-armed Duo Candlestick (\$58) comes in four colors and is 2.5 inches tall.

Technically not a candelabra, Tracy Ren’s Blue & White Candelabra (\$88) is 3.5 inches tall, holds a single taper and is inspired by blue-and-white Chinese porcelain.

Like the coastal town it shares a name with, Astier de Villatte’s ceramic Positano Candlestick (\$385) is a sight to behold. Just more than 17 inches tall, it can support pillars or tapers. Also designed to display both is x Lea & Nicolas’ pair of 4.5- and 2-inch-tall holders made of terra cotta (\$70 for two).

Far finer a material is the sterling silver of Georg Jensen’s roughly 6-inch-tall Grape Candlestick (\$5,500). A purveyor to the Queen of Denmark, the maker introduced the design, embellished with tiny fruits, in 1930. If you’re in the market for silver: In his prescriptive, out-of-print cookbook, “Living and Eating,” architect John Pawson recommends even older styles, including Georgian and Victorian candlesticks. “A surprising choice, perhaps, given their curves could undoubtedly be simplified, although not improved by subtraction,” Pawson writes.

Intricately crafted foliage adorns the 3-inch-tall Small Leaves Candle Holder (\$66 for two) from Giacomo

Alessi, an artisan based in Sicily who was designated a Living Human Treasure by UNESCO. Another timeless style: Tiffany & Co.’s 10-inch-tall Classic Candlestick made of lead crystal (\$100).

Farmhouse Pottery in Woodstock, Vermont, designed the Essex Candlestick (from \$55) for West Elm. Made of wood, it is sold in three sizes, from 5.5 to 9.5 inches tall, and four colors. Colorful, too, is Geraldine Gonzalez’s holder (\$35), which is lined in painted tissue paper and becomes even more vibrant when a votive or tea candle is lit inside.

Taper and pillar candles

Abundant and affordable, Ikea’s white Jubla tapers start at a 7.5 inches tall (from \$8.99 for 20) and are made of stearin that the retailer says is derived from animal fat. The 3-foot-tall tapers from Creative Candles (\$42 for one) can be purchased in four colors. Their blended wax, according to the brand, includes beeswax, paraffin and carnauba. Sister Moons’ Light-the-Night Beeswax tapers (from \$30 for two) are sold in five shades and two sizes, an 11-inch height that is curvy and a 14-inch one that is more angular.

Made from beeswax in Oaxaca, Mexico, the Blush Floral Taper Candle (\$45) is crafted in a style native to that city for candles used to celebrate marriage proposals. House of Saku’s Round Earth Pillar Candle (from \$39) looks as if it could have been cut from rock, but is made of palm wax and sold in five sizes between 5.9 and 15 inches tall. Lex Pott’s color-blocked Pillar Candle for Hay (from \$45), made of paraffin wax, is also available in five heights, from 5.5 to 13.75 inches tall.

What to do and not do when renovating a room inside your home

By Cathy Hobbs
Tribune News Service

It’s that time of the year when many homeowners are considering renovating. While sprucing up your home can be exciting, here are some suggestions for prudent ways to approach a renovation, regardless of size.

Do’s
1. Do obtain multiple bids. Regardless of whether it’s love at first sight, having multiple bids may help

provide peace of mind, knowing that you didn’t overpay for your renovation.
2. Do ask for previous samples of work or references. This will help ensure that your hired professional has executed similar renovation projects.
3. Do have inspiration images and overall design direction. There is nothing worse than flying blind on a renovation project.

Don’t’s
1. Don’t purchase your

materials once your project has commenced. Instead try to have fixtures, appliances, etc., preordered to avoid delays in your project, which will likely increase cost.
2. Don’t submit change orders, or try to submit as few as possible. Many contractors charge fees relating to changing work orders.
3. Don’t micromanage. While it is prudent to be on top of your project, it may be counterproductive to be overly involved.



Sprucing up your home can be exciting, like this completed studio renovation. PROVIDED PHOTO/TNS

REAL ESTATE MATTERS

Transferring assets has variety of options

Some methods are more cost-effective than others offer

By Ilyce Glink and Samuel J. Tamkin
Tribune Content Agency

Q: I'm a 60-year-old single woman who hopefully has all my finances in order. I have beneficiaries on all of my accounts and a will, but I don't have a trust. Considering the cost of setting up a trust is expensive and the only things I would have to put in it are my house and car, my financial guy suggested setting up a transfer of death instrument for my home. What do you think about this? It seems simple enough to fill out a form and register it. Thanks.

A: When it comes to transferring assets, there are a lot of ways to do it, some more cost-effective than others.

There are a variety of trusts that could be written to solve the problem. Some, like generation-skipping trusts, might be more complicated than a living trust that is used to simply assist in transferring assets.

The fact that you have a financial “guy” is helpful in and of itself. Good financial advisers should recommend services or products that can make their clients’ lives easier, and we’re glad he brought this up in your estate planning conversations.

If you want to transfer assets like bank accounts, insurance proceeds, retirement accounts, securities, vehicles, boats and real estate, almost every state has enacted legislation allowing you to use a transfer on death (TOD) instrument for some, if not all, of these uses. A TOD allows



It is important to consider all your assets when estate planning. DREAMSTIME/TNS

your named beneficiaries to claim their property after your death, bypassing probate.

Some types of assets are well-suited to a TOD, while others can be simply covered by naming your heirs as beneficiaries when you open up those accounts. If it doesn’t happen when the accounts are opened, you can ask the financial institution for paperwork and use it as needed, such as when your life or priorities change.

Since you didn’t ask about your bank accounts, 401(k) and other retirement accounts, and other similar assets, we assume those are already managed appropriately. Still, you’ll

want to go over everything with a fine-tooth comb, including bank accounts, insurance policies, savings accounts, stock accounts, savings bonds, IRAs, 401(k) accounts, annuities, boat and motorcycle titles, etc.

When it comes to your home or vehicle, a TOD might be a good solution. Typically, you prepare the TOD document and have the document recorded or filed with the office that handles real estate records. Once filed, you are giving notice to the world that upon your death, the title to the home should go to the person designated on the TOD form.

You might need help from an attorney, title agent

or someone knowledgeable about the title to prepare the TOD for your home.

And be sure to think it through. If the person designated on the TOD form predeceases you, the home may need to be probated and the TOD would have been for nothing. TOD forms don’t necessarily have the same flexibility that you have with a last will and testament.

When it comes to your car, you might be able to use a TOD. While you don’t need to file the form, you’ll have to work with the agency that handles vehicle registrations to change the registration to name the person under the TOD.

If the TOD for your home and car takes care of the last remaining items in your estate, you should be in good shape. You’ll want to hand a copy of your documents to whoever you want to take care of your estate. And you should still write a will, just in case something doesn’t go right.

Some of our readers may live in places where TODs are not available for every type of asset. Make sure that your state allows TODs for each type of asset you want to transfer upon your death. As more states allow TODs, it will be easier to get these done. Many large financial institutions now allow TODs for stock, investment and

bank accounts, but if TODs aren’t allowed in your state for a home or car, this won’t be an option for these assets.

Finally, make sure you keep your TODs up to date. Use a new one when you open up a new account, buy a new car, there is a change of circumstances where the person designated on the TOD dies or become incapacitated, is no longer able to handle financial affairs or you no longer want that person to get your assets.

Ilyce Glink is the CEO of Best Money Moves and Samuel J. Tamkin is a real estate attorney. Contact them through the website ThinkGlink.com.



Professional carpet cleaners bring specialized tools and expertise to the job. SEBASTIAN CZAPNIK/DREAMSTIME

HOME REMEDIES

Winter is the perfect time to schedule carpet cleaning

By Paul F. P. Pogue
Ask Angi

Winter can be tough on your carpets, even if you don’t live in a cold area. The hustle and bustle of the holidays bring a lot of traffic through your home, and more activities mean more chances for something spilling and damaging your carpets. And if you do live in a zone with a lot of snow, your carpets will see even more wear and tear as people track in salt and snow.

That’s why winter is an ideal time to hire a pro to clean your carpets. You should hire a carpet cleaner about once every 12 to 18 months — and stick with 12 months if you have kids or pets!

Carpet tips

It may seem obvious, but frequent vacuuming is a crucial step to keep your carpet in good condition. One thing that’s not so obvious? You should avoid using DIY products to remove stains. Experts say homemade cleaning products can actually do more harm than good. Carpet

stain removal can be a tricky chemical balancing act, and that expertise is one of the most valuable things a pro cleaner brings to the table.

If you have a serious stain or spill, it’s better to have a pro take care of it sooner rather than later. Mop up what you can with a towel, and then call in help. When hiring, tell your carpet cleaner upfront what specific problems you need them to handle. Kids’ throw up, dog pee and spaghetti stains all call for different solutions. Your pro can use various techniques to address the issue, but only if they know what to look for.

You can also help the job go smoothly by clearing furniture and removing breakable items before your pro arrives.

Questions to ask

Before hiring a pro, make sure you get a quote with details about how they charge for their service. Some pros bill based on square footage, while others charge by the number of rooms they clean. Some may even

tack on an extra charge for targeting specific stains.

You should also ask how long their technicians have been on the job, and what kinds of certifications they hold. The Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification is one of the more prominent certifying organizations and requires workers to complete continuing education to maintain certification.

Don’t forget to ask about their cleaning method. Professional cleaners have a variety of tools available to them. Truck-mounted services tend to offer the deepest clean, but if you live in an inaccessible area, they may need to use a portable unit. Most cleaners use either dry-cleaning or hot-water extraction (sometimes called steam cleaning), which have their own pros and cons for various carpet types and situations.

One more thing: Carefully check your carpet manufacturer’s documentation when deciding on a cleaning method. Some techniques will void your carpet’s warranty.

TREASURES

In-person inspection needed to determine value of chair

By Helaine Fendelman and Joe Rosson
Tribune News Service

Q: I recently bought this rocking chair at a consignment shop in north Georgia. I paid \$98. Attached was a note reading, “1820-1860 probably New England.” It is pegged and has a split oak seat. I do not know if the seat is original. Please share any knowledge you may have on such a rocking chair. Thank you.

A: Rocking chairs are kind of a cliché that brings to mind a world that no longer exists. And they tend to take up too much room in modern homes where space can be at a premium.

That said, the chair in today’s question has some pizzazz and is certainly a more interesting example than most country-made rocking chairs we see. The most serious question is whether the chair began its life as an armchair and later had rockers added, or if it has always been a rocking chair.

Only an in-person examination would determine this with any certainty, but if we had to make a bet based on the photographs, we would probably go with the rockers as being a later addition. This would not be all that unusual.

We need to examine the date in the note. We feel the 1820 to 1860 time frame is a bit optimistic. Looking at the quality of the work plus the overall design, we think it is post-Civil War with a probable date of origin in the late third quarter or early fourth quarter of the 19th century. This does not materially affect the value or detract from the interest.

We can call this a Windsor-style chair, but it is not a true Windsor because it was constructed using pegs and does not have a



This unusual old rocker has a split-oak seat. READER SUBMITTED/TNS

typical Windsor plank seat. Instead, it is an adaptation of the 18th- and early 19th-century Windsor furniture that was made in England and North America. The top has a comb back and urn-shaped turnings on the chair’s side posts. Both are interesting design features.

The comb back was probably added as a headrest, or it could have just been decorative. The scrolled arms are well made and at the right height for the seat. Now we come to the split oak seat, which appears in the photographs to be so fragile we fear it would not support the weight of a well-fed house cat.

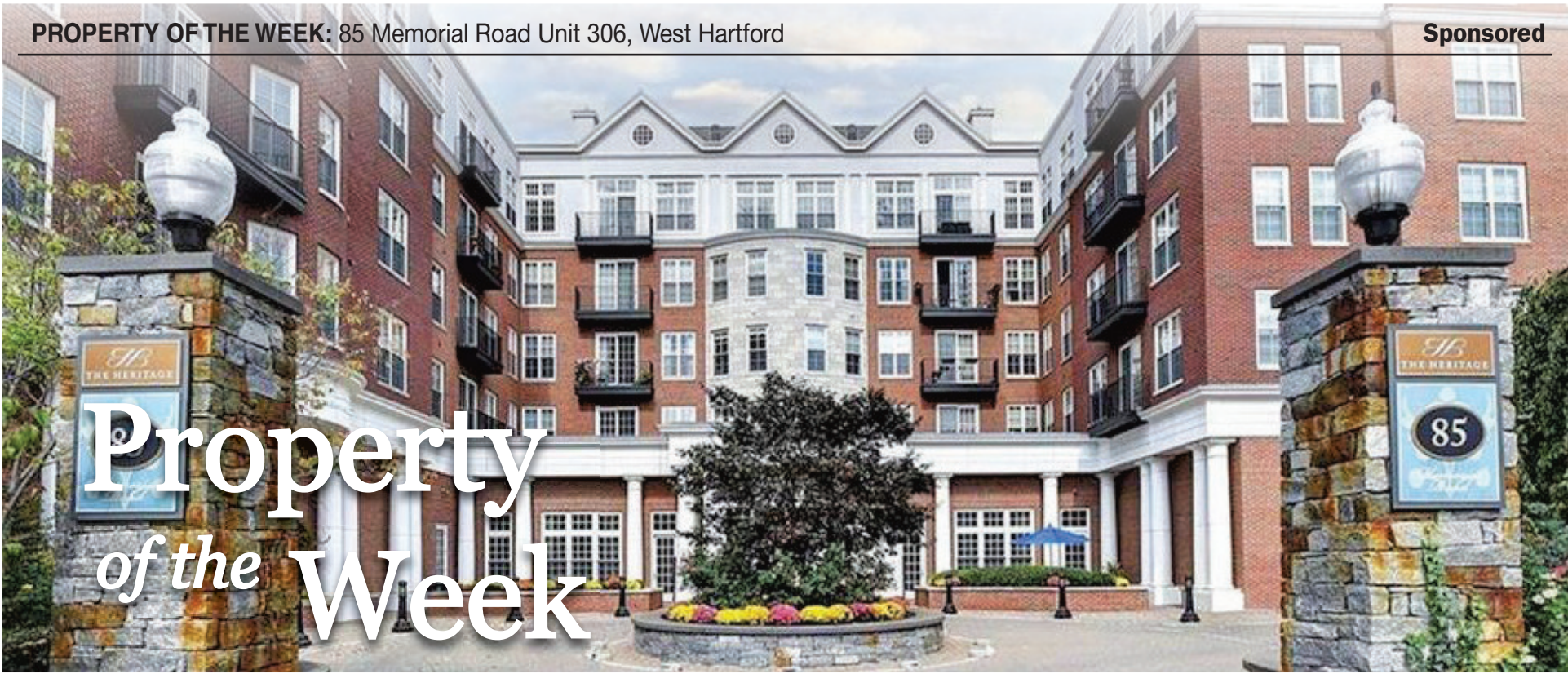
Fortunately, this is not a big problem because the rule of thumb is such seats

had to be replaced every 30 years or so. A well-done replacement seat would not hurt the value significantly (unless the new seat looks too fresh and incongruous and is jarring to the eye). Insurance replacement value with a new seat is in the \$175 to \$225 range.

Helaine Fendelman and Joe Rosson have written a number of books on antiques. Do you have an item you’d like to know more about? Contact them at Joe Rosson, 2504 Seymour Ave., Knoxville, TN 37917, or email them at treasures@knology.net. If you’d like your question to be considered for their column, include a high-resolution photo of the subject, which must be in focus, with your inquiry.

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK: 85 Memorial Road Unit 306, West Hartford

Sponsored



85 Memorial Road Unit 306, West Hartford

By James Alexander Due Jan. 30, 2022

This condominium in The Heritage at Blue Back Square would be spectacular in any location. It is spacious and inviting, filled with natural light, and features an open floor plan with high ceilings, premium millwork and wonderful westerly views overlooking the center of West Hartford. It also enjoys a unique status in the building.

This came about because the original owners committed to buy this unit early in the building's development, said John Hoyer, who is handling the sale. They were therefore able to put two units together, creating one of only three units in the building with a double floor plan.

The result is a large open layout for the living room, dining area and chef's gourmet kitchen, with enough space left over for three roomy bedrooms, including a gorgeous prime suite, and 2 ½ baths.



Adding to its appeal is this unit's corner location. This allows the living room to offer a cozy and inviting seating area in The Heritage's turret, which is a distinctive architectural feature on the northwest corner of the building. This seating area, with its five large windows, offers commanding views of Blue Back Square, West Hartford Center, and beyond. Closer to the building, residents can look out on a large, verdant lawn.

The field of view from this turret vantage point exceeds 180 degrees, but for a different and unfettered view to the north and west, the owners can open the living room's French doors and step onto a balcony, one of two in this unit.



Other perks that came with the early commitment included the ability to claim two large and ideally located parking spaces in the private, secured garage that is under the building. These spaces are just steps from the elevator that whisks residents from their homes to the garage. Two secure storage rooms are also included.

As for the unit itself, the entrance opens on a foyer, with the open public areas to the right and two of the private bedrooms to the left. The foyer also provides direct access to a large coat closet and the unit's half bath.

While there are two bedrooms to the left, the prime bedroom suite is to the right, off the living space. "This gives some separation from the other two bedrooms, which is very appealing," John Hoyer said.



The appeal of this primary suite is enhanced by the amenities it offers. In addition to providing ample room for sleeping, it has a large bathroom with a double sink vanity, a tub, separate shower, subway tile, and marble floors. The primary suite also has a large walk-in closet. It is best described as commodious.



The heart of the home, however, is the spacious open area that encompasses the living room, dining area, and the chef's kitchen. Here wide plank Brazilian cherry flooring sets a warm and elegant tone while the gas fireplace serves as a focal point for the living area.

The kitchen has Wolf appliances, a built-in refrigerator, and stone counters, with immediate access to a large walk-in pantry and the unit's laundry room. A peninsula separates the kitchen from the living area, without cutting the chef off from family and guests. It also serves as a breakfast bar, with room for several people to sit. From the kitchen, a large dining area is just a few steps away.



Down the hall and past the entry foyer are two large bedrooms with ample closet space. They are served by the second full bath, which features a vanity with a stone counter, marble flooring and more subway tile. One of these bedrooms accesses the home's second balcony. These bedrooms could also be used as two separate home offices.

Not to be overlooked when considering this home is the sophisticated lifestyle of being right in Blue Back Square and West Hartford Center. There you will find top-rated restaurants, Whole Foods, a movie theater, and the town's excellent library. All are close by and are desirable 'walk-to' amenities, John Hoyer said, adding that the nearby Delamar Hotel is ideal for overflow guests staying for several days.

Common areas on the first floor of The Heritage include a handsome library and an inviting meeting room where owners can gather for social events. It, with its full kitchen, is also available for private parties. Both rooms are impressive for their high tray ceilings and perfectly scaled trim. And with warm weather coming, residents will find the outdoor tables and chairs protected by large umbrellas on either side of the main entrance inviting.



"These units are very rare," said Joanne Hoyer. "The location gives you privacy, but also all the life-style amenities that people want," with John adding, "It offers urban living, but you are still in suburbia."

"The market for premium upscale condominiums in town is very tight," added Joanne Hoyer. "Last year in West Hartford, only five units priced over \$600,000 were [available and] sold."



She attributed much of this success to the town's appeal and has seen new residents choose West Hartford for its location, halfway between New York and Boston, and its reputation for being a highly desirable community.

Potential buyers might need to wait for another unit like this, with its highly desirable floor plan, ideal location, and beautiful sunset views, to become available again, she said. Then she noted, "The sunsets are especially beautiful in the winter."



PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

85 Memorial Road Unit 306, West Hartford

Year built: 2007

Price: \$995,000

Style: Traditional

Rooms: 5

Bedrooms: 3

Bathrooms: 2 ½

Square footage: 2,139

Mill rate for motor vehicles: 42.42

Best feature: Convenient location with West Hartford Center combined with a spectacular location within the building

Contact: John and Joanne Hoyer
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices New England
jkh@hoeyeteam.com
860-983-0875

GRANBY

UNDER CONTRACT. Experience life at its best in this beautifully maintained townhome, in desirable Windmill Springs conveniently located within walking distance of Granby town center. Great home for game day parties, or just hanging with the family in the spacious open living and dining areas. Pass-through window to ultra-efficient kitchen, makes entertaining fun, keeping everyone in on the action. 42 Windmill Springs, Unit# 42, Granby, CT 06035. Robin Schaefer 860-543-1282, rschaefer@williampitt.com



BARKHAMSTED

TO BE BUILT! Lovely 2600 SF Farmhouse Colonial, 4 bedrooms. 2 ½ baths, attached 2 car garage on a private 2+ acre lot at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac. The open floor plan is an entertainer's dream. Spacious, energy efficient sunlit home with oversized windows built to the highest quality standards. 25 Kelsey Court, Barkhamsted, CT 06063. Cathy McCahill 860-480-6760, cmccahill@williampitt.com.



REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

ANSONIA

4 Rose Hill Ave, Harrington, Philip P and Harrington, Robin M to Valko, Jakob, 1/10, \$310,000
12 Woodbridge Ave, Dellarocco, Robert R to Alvarez-Tamayo, Segundo F, 1/10, \$300,000
22 Page St, Costello, Donna J to Mckay, Grae and Mckay, Kerry A, 1/6, \$280,000

ASHFORD

15 Boston Hollow Rd, Mather, Sandra L and Cicciariello, Peter to Bailey, Jessica L, 1/12, \$245,000
40 Lake Woods Ln, Fradette, Alain J to Light, Joan, 1/10, \$410,000
116 Pumpkin Hill Rd, Pollingue, Cynthia C and Reid, Michael R to Conover, Donna, 1/11, \$260,000

AVON

N/A, Mathew, Dennis and Mathew, Elizabeth to Conrad, Luke R and Conrad, Kayleigh M, 1/10, \$819,000
9 Hawks Rdg, Singh, Swinderjett and Singh, Aminder to Loveland, Jason C and Loveland, Jamie, 1/10, \$113,000
90 Old Farms Rd, Macmeekin, Nancy R to Traub, Melissa S, 1/11, \$320,000

BEACON FALLS

N/A, Pond Spring Dev LLC to Delvecchio, John and Delvecchio, Sandra, 1/14, \$316,500
29 Johnson St, Murtishi, Zaim to Maitland-Ewart, Sophia N, 1/10, \$350,000
53 Lancaster Dr Lot 6, RRB Properties LLC to Tykong LLC, 1/10, \$110,001

BERLIN

S Slope Dr, Szczygla, Rafal to Tabaszewski, Tadeusz and Tabaszewski, Urszula, 1/12, \$365,000
15 Brittanys Path, Decormier Woods LLC to Niro, Michael and Pappalardo, Alexia, 1/13, \$145,000
18 Cliffview Dr, Krajewski, Erik to Santiago, Jose and Douyart, Stacey L, 1/10, \$389,000
99 Clock Shop Dr, Biondi, Thomas A to Rosado, Travis and Pietrasiewicz, Jessica, 1/11, \$445,000
353 Main St, Satalline Realty LLC to 353-355 Main Street LLC, 1/14, \$245,000
1259 Mill St, Budonaro, Andre and Budonaro, Luigi A to Delgado, Elizabeth and Diaz, Nelson, 1/13, \$335,000

BETHANY

106 Luke Hill Rd, Vilayvong, Phongsy C to Bloch, Michael and Landeros-Weisenberger, A, 1/12, \$610,000

BETHEL

2 Turnage Ln, DBM Holdings LLC to TB2 Turnage LLC, 1/10, \$1,300,000
11 Great Hill Dr Lot 11, Toll CT 2 LP to Kast-off, Geraldine, 1/11, \$578,550
18 Pleasant St, Edelmann, Anthony to Marshall 2nd, Phil A, 1/10, \$450,000
38 Apollo Rd, Odell, Arlene R to Pena, Williams and Moran, Yaniris, 1/10, \$342,789
84 Hoyts HI, Friedman, Nathan B to Matz, Jonathon and Matz, Robyn, 1/11, \$390,000
809 Lexington Blvd Lot 809, Saradain, Allison G to Garcia, Samantha A, 1/10, \$232,535

BLOOMFIELD

1 Old Flintlock Rd, Carby, Linnet E to Lucent Properties LLC, 1/10, \$170,000
3 Beacon Hill Dr, Brooks, Selena B to Bloch, Kamar and Providence, Brenda, 1/10, \$285,000
5 Crestview Dr, Alleyne, Shannon G and Nationstar Mortgage LLC to Nationstar Mortgage LLC, 1/12, \$156,640
8 Belden Rd, Metcalfe Realty LLC to MRP Ct St LLC, 1/12, \$62,600,000
13 Julie Ln, Payton Property Mgmt LLC to Campbell, Phillip J, 1/10, \$316,000
33 Grant Hill Rd, Dunston, Terese to Leahy, Ryan, 1/10, \$255,000
659 Park Ave, Schindler, Zachary M to Robinson, Elaine, 1/12, \$261,000

BOLTON

39 West St, Freddo Eleanor L Est and Freddo, Thomas F to Burnham, Debra and Burnham, Donald, 1/12, \$231,000

BRANFORD

1 Lakeview Dr Lot 1, Roding, Annette to Feren, Merlito V, 1/11, \$231,900
3 Fir Tree Dr, Le, Maura T and Le, Andrew V to Gross RET and Gross, R Barrett, 1/11, \$652,000
20 Parish Farm Rd, F Vioglitti Const Co LLC to Massey, Taylor and Alessi, William, 1/10, \$504,900
138 Village Ln Lot 138, B&B Capital LLC to Witter, Shanecia N, 1/11, \$200,000
157 Austin Ryer Ln Lot 157, Edgerton, Christopher M to Wu, Jia, 1/11, \$190,000

BRIDGEPORT

Nob Hill Condo Lot 64, Sangabriel, Noel to 44 Nob Hill Circle LLC, 1/12, \$72,000
64 Hickory St, Ayala, Christina A and Ayala, Juan D to Beckford, Michael and Williams, Ricardo, 1/11, \$407,000
72 Sims St, Reyes, Adriana M to Brawley, Randi, 1/12, \$84,000
78 Rowley St Lot 3, Hoffman, Paul J to Mclean, David, 1/7, \$106,000
80 Cartright St Lot PHA, Lombardo, James to Dumas, Pamela J, 1/10, \$160,000
80 Cartright St Lot 8B, Huntley, James A to Connerly, Kevin P, 1/12, \$90,000
105 Daniel Dr, Colbree Lorraine A Est and Colbree, David to Haas Development Corp, 1/10, \$305,000
105-107 Denver Ave, 105-107 Denver Ave LLC to Watson, Brittney E, 1/10, \$325,000
111-113 Priscilla Cir, Reid, Stacyann T to Bolt, Orville O, 1/11, \$285,000
114 Asylum St, Willis Tisha M Est and Willoughby, Kumari to Nozli, Waglene, 1/10, \$113,000
114 Division St, Forson Jr, Joseph to Buri, Cesar E and Cruz, Camacho B, 1/12, \$265,000
138 Suburban Ave, Rashids Realty LLC to Julbe, Justin S and Morales, Jennifer, 1/12, \$369,000
173 Woodlawn Ave, Kelly, Lystra and Kelly, Orville to Shultz, Kevin, 1/7, \$294,000
192-196 Harriet St, Clay, Roberta and Johnson, Dahlia to Robinson, Sybil, 1/12, \$365,000
200 Chestnut St Lot 200, Satanovskaya, Inna to CGC Properties LLC, 1/12, \$69,000
232 Pleasantand Ave, Hernandez, Keichmarie to Baker, Ramond, 1/12, \$348,000
269 Madison Ter, Reinheimer, Marcos C to Falcon, Keith, 1/10, \$440,000
365 Chamberlain Ave, Castro, Perez J and Perez, Julia to Henry, Carlton and Minott, Michelle, 1/12, \$290,000
554-556 N Ridgefield Ave, Miranda, Eva and Miranda, Jose to Robles, Karen C, 1/10, \$450,000
583-585 Gregory St, 583-585 Gregory St LLC to Vi Home Corp, 1/11, \$635,000
601 Wood Ave, Ferik, Thomas J to Rhoden, David, 1/12, \$385,000
639 Queen St, Padilla, Desmond E and Padilla, Evelyn to Taylor, Glenford and Taylor, Natalie, 1/7, \$310,000
676 Brooks St, Robinson, Isiah to Uppal, Nirmal S, 1/12, \$130,000
679-681 Shelton St, Badio, Pierrot and Vermette, Stephanie to Thompson, Tracy L, 1/10, \$315,500
810-812 Grand St, Huynh, Sandy and Ngo, Niem to Medina, Jassiel D and Parra, Kenneth A, 1/12, \$379,000
830 Platt St, Pryisma Lending Group LLC to Antonio, Doreen, 1/12, \$315,000
875 Queen St, 875 Queen LLC to Ivanov, Atanas S and Ivanov, Milena S, 1/10, \$360,000
889-891 Central Ave, Green, Eugene to Mato, Edward, 1/11, \$289,000
895-897 Pearl Harbor St, PTZ Enterprises LLC to Richardson, Robert, 1/10, \$360,000
2080 Madison Ave, Rua, Manuel and Rua, Maria to Gonzalez, Pena C and Reyes, Juan M, 1/11, \$310,000
2625 Park Ave Lot 10C, Zhang T and Zhang, Guo G to Billups, Raymond, 1/12, \$144,000
3215 Madison Ave Lot 31, Oshea, James G to Javier, Julio E and Samayoa, Gilda F, 1/10, \$215,000

BRIDGEWATER

Beach Hill Rd E, Feil, Joanne to Benson, Jeremy and Benson, Krista, 1/11, \$140,000
495 Hut Hill Rd, Fitzgerald 3rd, Thomas M and Fitzgerald, Lida E to Cronstein, Bruce and Goodman, Susan, 1/14, \$755,000

BRISTOL

Barbes St, Porowski, Irene to Porowski, Andrew, 1/14, \$40,000
Greystone Ave, Nauman, Michael to Lekram, Shawn A and Lekram, Maline, 1/10, \$280,000
Pequabuck St Lot 6, Trademark Acquisitions to Perera, Elizabeth, 1/12, \$410,500
Vance Rd, Simon Dorcas J Est and Simon, David P to Kay Property LLC, 1/11, \$151,000
Westminster Rd, Common Good Real Estate to Dery, Benjamin D and Dery, Samantha, 1/10, \$283,000
5 Crest Dr, Henderson, Susan to Wirtes, Megan A and Deschaine, Danny R, 1/14, \$370,000
15 Lacava Rd, Reeve Eleonore Est and Reeve, Carolyn to Mccarron, Hayley and Lebron, Julie, 1/14, \$280,000
17 Edgewood St, Boucher, Lolita to Henderson, Jaimie, 1/13, \$145,900
22 Jay Ln, Watson, Jeffrey to Atkins, Kevin A, 1/10, \$390,000
26 Mohican Ln, Mangual-Toledo, Arianisis and Chavez, Bryan to Torres, Lydia, 1/11, \$237,000
30 Eugene Ave, Letalien, Keith D and Letalien, Nancy J to Birkenberger, Nicholas, 1/13, \$230,000
47 Ingraham Pl, Lachance, Stephan H to Zalot, Austin J, 1/12, \$198,500
50 Ebert Dr Lot 65, Mcgrrail, Daniel to Swarts, Autumm L, 1/14, \$145,000
52 Irving St Lot 30, Aliano, Mary to Pizarro, Mildred, 1/10, \$136,000
53 Hillbrand Rd Lot 3-4, Hanelt, Stanley R and Hanelt, Sarah C to Raptis, George and Raptis, Ermonii, 1/12, \$89,000
56 Apple Rd, Omojola, Olusesan O and Omojola, Margaret to Capozzi, Regina M, 1/10, \$275,000
56 Daisy Cir, Gimenez, Daniel E to Montilla, Elias and Montilla, Xeana, 1/10, \$280,000
57 Hardwick Rd, Smotherman, Bradley to Kosuda, Sebastian, 1/11, \$190,900
60 Rockwell Ave, Venditto, Carrie to Sobo Brothers Investments, 1/13, \$111,000
80 Lincoln Ave, Wilson, Brett to Chafay, Zoubir, 1/11, \$180,000
88 Yantana Dr, Vargas, Teresa to Israel, Steven W, 1/11, \$235,000
114 Mercier Ave, Casey, Alexandra to Boucher, Lolita C and Levesque, Danny, 1/12, \$217,000
115 Lakewood Cir, Nadim, Amir H and Nadimi, Azadeh to Cody, James W and Cody, Lisa D, 1/13, \$405,000
120 Strawberry Hill Rd, Nadeau, Leopold J and Nadeau, Francine to Lopez-Koss-biel, Susana and Leackfeldt, Kyle J, 1/10, \$270,000
131 Allentown Rd, Lawrence E Behr RET and Gottlieb, Mark to Colligan Jr, Wallace M, 1/13, \$258,000
176 Morningside Dr W, Reilly, Geraldine M and Arnone, Sarah M to Nilsson, Devin and Huric, Amel, 1/14, \$175,000
249 Woodland St, Gianseruo 3rd, William and Gianseruo, Laura to Reyes, Alida D, 1/10, \$245,000
311 Farmington Ave, Peixoto, Francisco and Peixoto, Viviane A to Sobata Enterprises LLC, 1/11, \$188,000
324 Brewster Rd, Skinner, Andrew W and Skinner, Hannah to Omojola, Margaret and Omojola, Olusesan, 1/10, \$410,000
351 Farmington Ave, Ajmal, Oza! and Mikolinski, Renee to Sobota Enterprises LLC, 1/11, \$190,000
577 East Rd, Bates, Paulyne A to Duval, Michelle Y and Duval, Robin D, 1/12, \$168,000
1121 Matthews St, Levesque, Hermel D and Levesque, Gloria F to Bua, Joseph F and Bua, Susan T, 1/13, \$460,000
1469 Farmington Ave Lot 35, Pose, Janet and Pose, Jon to Thibodeau, Danielle and Jimenez, Eric, 1/10, \$233,000

BROOKFIELD

7 Hidden Brook Dr, Giannaras, George and Giannaras, Christine to Casey, Kevin J and Salamack, Kelley K, 1/14, \$790,000
50 High Ridge Rd, Birdsall, Jonathan B and Birdsall, Mary E to Rebelo, Cristina G and Crump, Brian A, 1/12, \$550,000

BROOKLYN

262 Bailey Woods Rd, Sacco, Vincent to Luyando, Carmen M, 1/10, \$300,000

BURLINGTON

4 Jennifer Ln, Ventres, Jonathan G and Ventres, Linda S to Kellner, Christopher W and Storti, Nicole A, 1/13, \$367,500
11 Himnan Meadow Rd, Rodrigue, Nicole to Violette, David and Violette, Linda, 1/11, \$612,500
19 Lak Spur Dr, Wright, Diana and Wright, John to Sanford, James L and Sanford, Jordan, 1/11, \$520,000
27 Savarese Ln, Wallace, Craig and Wallace, Tamra to Thornton, Andrew and Scheidel, Erin M, 1/11, \$272,000
45 Savarese Ln, Chambrello, Kayleigh to Casey, Thomas M, 1/10, \$14,000
66 Duane Ln, Ruey, Ronald C and Ruey, Dorota to Hendricks, Michelle, 1/10, \$389,000
114 Nelson Dr, Carrier Home Builders Inc to Peltier, Brandon and Peltier, Nicole, 1/11, \$125,000

CANTERBURY

623 S Gisele Rd, Mandeville, Alan M to Luce, Catherine V, 1/11, \$115,000

CANTON

5 Shagbark Ln, Shine, Leonard J and Carr, Susan L to Klorczyk, Donald A and Klorczyk, Mary B, 1/12, \$430,000
7 High Hill Rd, Hayes, Christopher and Hayes, Susan to Brechun, Magdalena and Reich, Zofia, 1/7, \$410,000
53 Village Ln Lot 53, Preuss, Federico to Badugu, Narahari, 1/11, \$334,000

CHAPLIN

68 Federal Rd, Titchen, Nancy E to Brown, Jessica and Leffingwell, Ashley, 1/10, \$221,000
200 Chestnut St Lot 200, Satanovskaya, Inna to CGC Properties LLC, 1/12, \$69,000
232 Pleasantand Ave, Hernandez, Keichmarie to Baker, Ramond, 1/12, \$348,000
269 Madison Ter, Reinheimer, Marcos C to Falcon, Keith, 1/10, \$440,000
365 Chamberlain Ave, Castro, Perez J and Perez, Julia to Henry, Carlton and Minott, Michelle, 1/12, \$290,000
554-556 N Ridgefield Ave, Miranda, Eva and Miranda, Jose to Robles, Karen C, 1/10, \$450,000
583-585 Gregory St, 583-585 Gregory St LLC to Vi Home Corp, 1/11, \$635,000
601 Wood Ave, Ferik, Thomas J to Rhoden, David, 1/12, \$385,000
639 Queen St, Padilla, Desmond E and Padilla, Evelyn to Taylor, Glenford and Taylor, Natalie, 1/7, \$310,000
676 Brooks St, Robinson, Isiah to Uppal, Nirmal S, 1/12, \$130,000
679-681 Shelton St, Badio, Pierrot and Vermette, Stephanie to Thompson, Tracy L, 1/10, \$315,500
810-812 Grand St, Huynh, Sandy and Ngo, Niem to Medina, Jassiel D and Parra, Kenneth A, 1/12, \$379,000
830 Platt St, Pryisma Lending Group LLC to Antonio, Doreen, 1/12, \$315,000
875 Queen St, 875 Queen LLC to Ivanov, Atanas S and Ivanov, Milena S, 1/10, \$360,000
889-891 Central Ave, Green, Eugene to Mato, Edward, 1/11, \$289,000
895-897 Pearl Harbor St, PTZ Enterprises LLC to Richardson, Robert, 1/10, \$360,000
2080 Madison Ave, Rua, Manuel and Rua, Maria to Gonzalez, Pena C and Reyes, Juan M, 1/11, \$310,000
2625 Park Ave Lot 10C, Zhang T and Zhang, Guo G to Billups, Raymond, 1/12, \$144,000
3215 Madison Ave Lot 31, Oshea, James G to Javier, Julio E and Samayoa, Gilda F, 1/10, \$215,000

CHESHIRE

N/A, Whelan, Kenneth G and Whelan, Marieanne R to Kurriger, James M and Kurriger, Katherine, 1/10, \$585,000
N/A, B&D Investments LLC to Birks Jr, William L and Birks, Donna L, 1/10, \$163,000
22 Southwick Ct Lot 22, Coppola, Yvonne and Coppola, Richard to Moynihan, Louis F, 1/10, \$287,000

CLINTON

7 Fieldbrook Ave, Terrieri, Abby and Furtak, Brian to SBB Inc, 1/10, \$272,300
7 Tamarack Dr, Hoag, Mark T2 to Argarin, Luis D and Argarin, Karen, 1/10, \$330,000
94 Carter Hill Rd, Capone, Richard J and Capone, Sharon L to Mcdougall, Evan and Terwilliger, Kathryn, 1/10, \$386,000
102 Glenwood Rd, Reynolds, Cassandra M to Perrone, Karen, 1/6, \$283,800

COLEBROOK

17 Prock Hill Rd, Budin, Diane E to Wawrzyniak, Jerry and Wawrzyniak, Mary, 1/14, \$340,000
85 Cobb City Rd, Clark, William J to Ruot, Gregory, 1/10, \$925,000

COLUMBIA

55 Pine St, R&B Property Dev LLC to Cordiano, Jessica E, 1/10, \$425,000
214 Pine St, Ferris, Michelle to Mercado, Javier, 1/6, \$321,000

COVENTRY

24 Walnut Trl, Nichols, Tammi M to Ortiz, Carlos and Banducci, Denise, 1/12, \$195,000
99 David Dr, Dunham, Patrick A and Dunham, Jessica A to Paris, Jennifer, 1/10, \$320,000
6 Windmill Rd, Caney, Charles F and Caney, Linda R to Anselmo, Chad J and Anselmo, Kaleigh M, 1/10, \$416,000
67 Crystal Lake Rd, Prevost, Devin and Prevost, Tiffany to Kobelski, Edward L, 1/10,

CROMWELL

2 Watch Hill Cir Lot 2, Madari, Shilpa to Williams, Julie C, 1/11, \$214,900
16 Dogwood Ct Lot 16, Norris, David T and Norris, Kathleen A to Bingham, Michael, 1/3, \$147,500
22 Franklin Rd, Lowry, Madeleine S to Hanna, Chase and Petronella, Jennifer R, 1/4, \$470,400
22 Raymond Pl, Lefebvre, Michael D to Mischowski, Jonathan M, 1/3, \$285,000
47 Hillside Rd, Zito, Jamie and Zito, Jason to Kornfeld, Alexandra and Kornfeld, Tomer, 1/3, \$335,000
90 Nooks Hill Rd, Leon Bro General Const LLC to Wade, Paige N, 1/4, \$311,975

DANBURY

Crystal Bay, Kelley, Prudence B to Timokhine, Anatoli, 1/10, \$450,000
Park Ridge Condo Lot 26, Oneill, Jean M to Megan A and Deschaine, Danny R, 1/14, \$370,000
8 Cel Bret Dr, Costanzo, Louis to Rosa, Carlos and Rosado, Elizabeth, 1/10, \$499,900
25 Padanaram Rd Lot 105, Donnelly, Michael J to Halerz, Barbara and Halerz, Jan, 1/10, \$245,000
40-A Pembroke Rd, Beiner, Marcy to Whyte, Renee and Segree, Merline, 1/10, \$450,000
45 Pocono Ln Lot 41, Deoliveira, Amanda D and Ouellet, Kyle S to Jain, Manoj K and Jain, Swati, 1/10, \$440,000
55 Mill Plain Rd Lot 25-3, Bob Sonia Est and Letalien, Nancy J to Birkenberger, Nicholas, 1/13, \$230,000
84 Newtown Rd, Mui Properties NE Ltd to Haza Bell Realty LLC, 1/10, \$2,449,200
392 Main St, Mui Properties NE Ltd to Haza Bell Realty LLC, 1/10, \$2,633,896

DARIE

8 Old Stone Rd, Gallagher, Patrick L and Gallagher, Ann G to Catania, Natalie and Catania, Colby, 1/10, \$1,852,000
8 Rainbow Cir, Valandra, Lorraine M to Ripp, Mary K and Ripp, Michael, 1/10, \$1,065,000
12 Sunnyside Ave, Deleo, Kenneth and Deberadimis, Mark to Pike, Joshua H and Honig-Pike, Elizabeth, 1/6, \$1,999,000
18 Dubois St, Marquet, Lucille M to Deleo, Ken, 1/6, \$679,000
54 Stony Brook Rd, Smith, Townsend C and Smith, Eileen P to Eiref, Simon and Eiref, Angela, 1/6, \$3,500,000

DURHAM

Johnson Ln, Sharon C Wysocki LT and Wysocki, Sharon C to Wysocki, Olive R, 1/12, \$100,000
188 Main St, Woodson, Susan E and Woodson, Thomas R to Kaczynski, Michael G and Asti, Tracey, 1/11, \$440,000

EAST HADDAM

54 N Moodus Rd, US Bank NA to Antonivici, Julian, 1/10, \$160,000
65 Honey Hill Rd, Sikorski, Jennifer to Raptis, Patricia J and Blake, John, 1/13, \$385,000

EAST HARTFORD

12 Howard Ct, Smith, Diane L to Green, Jimmy, 1/10, \$144,000
20 Trinity Ln, Rubenstein Ft and Levine, Carolyn G to Paquette, Mandy, 1/10, \$168,000
38 Larais Ave, Schempp Marlene M Est and Moreau, Amanda to Moncrieffe, Sherica, 1/10, \$189,900
43 Spaulding Cir, Wilmington Svgs Fund Soc to Braga, Joanna, 1/10, \$187,000
52 Oxford Dr, Baker, Frank M and Simpson, Diane to Waldron, Nykesha, 1/10, \$189,000
124 Britt Rd, Cruz, Teresa M to Mcneish, Shanice J, 1/10, \$250,000
131 Green Manor Dr, Schmidt William H 3rd Est and Schmidt, Elaine to Felice, Calvin S and Felice, Robert S, 1/10, \$167,000
172 Jefferson Ln, Julienne T Debois LT and Debois, John A to Lariviere, Brandon, 1/10, \$135,000
175 Timber Trl, Laporte, Richard W and Laporte, Linda L to Siragusa, Paul L and Siragusa, Michelle, 1/10, \$282,600

EAST HAVEN

2 Northeast Dr, Rydlewski, Kevin and Rydlewski, Lisa A to Piscitelli, Joseph, 1/11, \$245,000
2 Robert Dr, Snedeker, Michael to Plaza, Edwin, 1/10, \$345,000
5 Birch Ln Lot C, Matt, Elizabeth to Philippe, Marie A, 1/12, \$124,500
8 Vera St, Gunning, Frederick T and Gunning, Lavinia to CFB Harvest LLC, 1/12, \$152,500
9 Birch Ln Lot B, Tenner, Kaitlin to Jasra LLC, 1/13, \$90,000
26 Charter Oak Ave, Colarc Holdings LLC to Gonzalez, Noe, 1/10, \$255,000
70 Redfield Ave, Francesco A Farina T and Priftera, Maria to DeJesus, Jessica, 1/13, \$325,000
75 Redwood Dr Lot 407, Iovene John Est and Iovene, Christopher J to Vessichio, Robert, 1/14, \$159,000
144 Foxon Blvd, Tramtanona Lena M Est and Tramtanona, Richard J to Doty, Kelly and Pergolotti, Vincent, 1/12, \$240,000
173 Russo Ave Lot 502, Hasiotis, Glenn C to Viczaya, Armando, 1/13, \$167,000
233 Mansfield Grove Rd Lot 103, Dangelo, Matthew and Dangelo, Alyssa to Snarky Jr, Bernard A and Mignano, Andrea, 1/12, \$315,000
326 Laurel St, Werme, Donny L and Werme, Deborah A to Rene, Pierre A, 1/12, \$445,000
495 Short Beach Rd, Tracy, Archie J to Silver Linings Dev LLC, 1/11, \$350,000

EAST LYME

Chesterfield Rd, Dodson, Valerie to Wu, Nick and Han, Xiaohong, 1/6, \$305,000
W End Ave, Rucci, Ralph A and Rucci, Mary A to Goncalves, Jose M and Goncalves, Dianne P, 1/14, \$320,000
N/A, Joglekar, Vikram P to Dautefendic, Selma, 1/11, \$113,580
1 W End Ave, Resnisky, James F and Resnisky, Julie G to Quirk, Marie J, 1/10, \$389,000
5 N Winchester Ct, Hale Patricia V Est to FHLM, 1/7, \$255,000
9 Harvest Gln, Moonitz, Ross and Moonitz, Theresa to Elsayed, Zeyad and Elsayed, Irina P, 1/12, \$633,500
11 Sandpiper Ln, Bonner, Jane to Nasser, Daniel J, 1/14, \$539,900
12 Seebek Rd, Mandeville, Alan M to Lawry, Tristan J and Lawry, Allison R, 1/11, \$100,000
18 Arbor Xing, East Lyme Dev Inc to Arora, Kapildev and Arora, Kirtree K, 1/10, \$754,071
20 Beckwith St, Shinder, David and Shinder, Daphne to Morin, Kris, 1/7, \$194,000
97 W Main St Lot 95, Loebell, Robert M to McCarthy, Dennis and McCarthy, Vicki, 1/13, \$269,000
99 S Beechwood Rd, Humanity Of Eastern CT to Hale, Howard W and Hale, Elizabeth M, 1/13, \$65,000
185 Main St, 183-1 Main Street LLC to 185 Main LLC, 1/10, \$850,000
187 W Main St, Main Hope Enterprises LLC to Wu, Richard P, 1/4, \$155,158

EAST WINDSOR

38 Prospect Hill Rd, Pride LP to Pride Real Estate LLC, 1/13, \$1,073,970
74 S Water St, Burnham, Thomas C to MCJK LLC, 1/11, \$118,000
106 Scantic Rd, Fly Boys Ink LLC to Perez, Elizabeth, 1/10, \$260,000

EASTFORD

Pound Rd, Vincent, Robert F and Vincent, Melissa to Bell, Stephen M and Bell, Laurie M, 1/12, \$65,000

EASTON

68 N Park Ave, Weitzman, Patricia D to Enos, James and Enos, Kristen, 1/11, \$1,175,000

ELLINGTON

1 Abbott Rd Lot 7, Smith, Michael A to Fallon, Marilyn E, 1/13, \$140,000
6 Windmill Rd, Caney, Charles F and Caney, Linda R to Anselmo, Chad J and Anselmo, Kaleigh M, 1/10, \$416,000
67 Crystal Lake Rd, Prevost, Devin and Prevost, Tiffany to Kobelski, Edward L, 1/10,

\$239,900

155 Ellington Ave, Clark, George to Garafalo, Sara M, 1/13, \$265,000

ENFIELD

5 Georgetown Dr Lot J, McKenna, Michael T to Iambard, Sara, 1/10, \$88,500
16 Indian Run, Ottino, James and Ottino, Christine to Meyer, Rebecca L and Meyer, Robert A, 1/10, \$280,000
323 Abbe Rd, Hanlon, Matthew W to Church, Joshua H, 1/10, \$275,000

ESSEX

7 Main St, Liberty Bank to Essex Village Prop LLC, 1/10, \$850,000
54 Main St, Lovelace, Richard S to Santoro, Annelisa, 1/10, \$650,000

FAIRFIELD

19 Putting Green Rd, Turek, Elliott and Turek, Michelle to Maunula, Teah and Kindilien, Adam, 1/10, \$465,000
25 Quaker Ln, Bove, Lauren to Daniel, Christopher J and Daniel, Kayla, 1/11, \$540,000
26 Adelaide St, Decutiitis Jr, Robert E and Decutiitis, Odilia C to Collins, Brandon and Rodriguez, Jannaise, 1/10, \$544,000
92 Sherwood Dr, Stephen, Janet S to Gersten, Stacey, 1/13, \$859,000
98 Fair Oak Dr, Phillips, Brian L and Phillips, Robin H to Oshaughnessy, Michael and Oshaughnessy, Laura, 1/11, \$1,075,000
107 Bennett St, Kvaka, Christopher and Gottfried, Jessica L to Deronzis, Jenna and Garcia, Eric, 1/11, \$550,000
118 Tunxis Hill Cut Off, TB&TZ LLC to Carmona-Giraldo, Natalie, 1/11, \$565,000
124 Fox St, Bento, Susanto to 122 Fox Street LLC, 1/14, \$850,000
160 Fairfield Woods Rd Lot 6, Labella Sr, Patrick to Levy, Amanda B, 1/11, \$320,000
197 Burr St, Masson, Peter and Masson, Edwina A to Larson, Christopher and Larson, Christine, 1/10, \$876,000
198 Old Black Rock Tpke, Orouke Patricia A Est and Cantor, Brian S to Provey, Joseph and Provey, Mary A, 1/12, \$405,000
212 Brookhead Rd, Mccain, Margaret D and Mccain Jr, Arthur W to Gough, Timothy E and Kait, Heidi J, 1/11, \$930,000
958 Hillside Rd, Caldiero, Raymond P and Caldiero, Lois M to Mcmichael, Gregory A and Burger-Mcmichael, Renee, 1/14, \$1,700,000
1353 Mill Plain Rd, Bygott, Rosalie M to Frank, George A, 1/14, \$450,000
2027 Hillside Rd, Tice, Gay to Anovick, Paul C and Anovick, Theresa M, 1/14

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

from Page 4

Vargas, Maria, 1/10, \$150,000
99 Roxbury Rd, Baran, Jan to Esoffery, Joan, 1/10, \$259,900
120 Camp St, Viera, Zenaïda to Sanchez Jr, Virgilio, 1/10, \$156,000
200 Brittany Farms Rd Lot D, Swairjo, Muna and Spring, Mona to Admoni, Marcel M and Admoni, Sara, 1/10, \$215,000
232 Buell St, Lesney, Marcy J to Vazquez, Juana A, 1/10, \$205,000
524 Allen St, Gerent, Katherine E to V20 Properties LLC, 1/10, \$72,650
544 Stanley St, Labbe, Daniel E and Labbe, Carol A to Jesus-Gonzalez, Eduardo, 1/10, \$320,000

NEW CANAAN

N/A, Mann, Dorothy to Patricia Hartner RET and Hartner, Patricia, 1/6, \$2,888,000
28 Selleck Pl, Schulman, Jared and Schulman, Bridget to Ellingson, Spencer and Ellingson, Madison, 1/10, \$2,500,000
72 Beech Rd, Higgins, Brian and Higgins, Molly to Spring, Jennifer, 1/6, \$1,398,500
438 Country Club Rd, Grieves, Robert and Lebourgeois, Anne to Marcillus, Daniel and Khanna, Preeya, 1/6, \$2,300,000
467 N Wilton Rd, Gharavi, Ali and Gharavi, Farah to Tuohy, Judson and Tuohy, Jacqueline, 1/10, \$2,325,000

NEW FAIRFIELD

14 Sunset Trl, Croxton, Kevin A and Croxton, Bonnie to Frank&Rose Genovese T and Genovese, Francis A, 1/10, \$842,500
19 Jeremy Dr, Becklo, Sevil J and Becklo, Nathan T to Ndiaye, Alioune and Kent, Corin, 1/10, \$640,000

NEW HAVEN

N/A, PMR Associates LLC to Outfront Media LLC, 1/10, \$67,100
7 Alden Ave, Warner, Mary and Beebe, Mark to Stanley, Alinda and Stanley, E Bevan, 1/13, \$556,000
25 Huntington Ave, Watts, Dion T to Nacca, Erin E, 1/13, \$270,000
31 Barnett St, Torello Jr, Michael L to Cavaliere, Thomas and Cavaliere, Lorraine, 1/14, \$355,000
36 Chamberlain St Lot B, Romero, Victori to Gallaoui, Yasmîna, 1/13, \$155,000
44 Stevens St, Weston, Terry L to Guery, Guy, 1/10, \$163,000
56 Canner St, Morrison, Courtney B to Lin, Feng J and Cheng, Kwong K, 1/10, \$550,000
59 Fillmore St, Colon Jr, Efrain to Santos, Elia, 1/12, \$139,500
64 Stanley St, Crabtree, Peter W and Crabtree, Eva V to Gur New Haven 3 LLC, 1/12, \$355,000
78 Stanley St, C&R Mukkhopadhyay RET and Mukhopadhyay, Rosemary to Marte, Jennifer and Marte, Christopher, 1/10, \$280,000
90 McKinley Ave, Barber, Bruce T and Juban-yik-Barber, Karen to Schwartz, Ronald J, 1/11, \$570,000
92 W Prospect St, Caro, Sarah and Caro, Gerard to Broderick, Rachel and Mckenna, Caitlin, 1/12, \$270,000
95 Thompson St, Clarke, Barbara J to Tran, Michael, 1/10, \$255,000
110 Bishop St, Killheffer, Christopher K to Schroers, Miriam and Schroers, Jan, 1/10, \$675,000
116 Frank St, Zayas, Rafael to Guzman Arias, Francisco S, 1/12, \$285,000
119 Olive St, TRG 119 Olive LLC to Hausladen, Douglas, 1/12, \$775,000
124 Court St Lot 307, Sznol, Jason to Betancourt, Jose D, 1/11, \$179,900
187 Lexington Ave, Martinez, Michael to Wang, Yi and Deng, Chaoyi, 1/10, \$255,000
208 Front St, Harvey, Donald A and Bonafe, Nathalie to Pinder, Kimberly N and Caughey, Mark A, 1/12, \$275,000
282 Greenwich Ave, DMSLS LLC to Climax New Haven LLC, 1/12, \$297,500
293 Greene St Lot 293, Minottii Jr, Charles T to Orear, Samuel E and Veloso-Abapo, Joseph N, 1/11, \$300,000
294 Front St, Taft-Myers, Jennifer M to 294 Front LLC, 1/14, \$120,000
313 Fountain St, 313 Fountain Street LLC to Sountsleeve, Joseph and Singh, Ayesha, 1/12, \$315,000
529 Woodward Ave Lot D, Miller, Scott R to Guarino, Alyssa, 1/13, \$139,000

NEW LONDON

11 Holly Ter, Superior Insulation&Svc to Thompson, Loreen, 1/10, \$361,000
25 Longview St, Santer, Mayer to Sidney L Santer T and Santer, Sondra M, 1/10, \$200,000
33 Farmington Ave, Tompkins-Bailey, Susan to Gaurlie, Colin A, 1/10, \$235,000
55 Blinman St, Santer, Mayer to Sidney L Santer T and Santer, Sondra M, 1/10, \$200,000
70 Farmington Ave Lot 4L, Tai T and Tai, Lui to Merlese-Liburd, Angela, 1/10, \$50,000
88 Riverview Ave, Old Ironside LLC to River-view Apt 88 LLC, 1/10, \$365,000
105 Vauxhall St, Tormie, Christopher to Midgett, Michael A, 1/10, \$230,000
126 Gardner Ave, Passero, Michael E to Brown, Mark, 1/10, \$265,000
883 Montauk Ave, 10 Eyck LLC to Waterview Apt 883 LLC, 1/10, \$650,000

NEW MILFORD

108 Taylor Rd, Unique Development LLC to Martinez, Edgar and Galindez, Katherine, 1/10, \$495,000
300 Aspectuck Ridge Rd, Knight Constr LLC to Stebbins, Rebecca and Stebbins, Zachary, 1/10, \$88,500

NEWINGTON

N/A, Burrill Janice A Est and Burrill, Sandra M to Aidel Property Mgmt LLC, 1/10, \$132,000

NORFOLK

231 Loon Meadow Dr, Sleeper, Keith A to Bartle, Elizabeth and Boghossian, David, 1/13, \$680,000

NORTH BRANFORD

58 Blue Jay Rd, Kadar, Kathleen M to Snedeker, Michael and Snedeker, Kimberly, 1/10, \$365,000
229 Branford Rd Lot 508, Thompson, Cynthia to Buchetto, Victor R, 1/11, \$165,000

NORTH CANAAN

43 Greene Ave, Macchi, Alice N to Roberts, Justin N and Roberts, Candice, 1/10, \$345,000

NORTH HAVEN

N/A Lot 2E, Rodriguez, Nancy to Lawrence, Veronica, 1/10, \$188,935
26 Poplar St, Keogh, Randi to Peterson, Kathryn M, 1/10, \$301,900
31 Coach Dr, Mckeen Anne C Est and Mckeen, Christopher to USA HUD, 1/12, \$216,403
55 Pine River Rd, Ramadanovic, Natalie and Citizens Bank NA to Citizens Bank NA, 1/10, \$266,113

58 Marion Dr, Landino, Rita A to Dyer, Timothy R and Spatucci, Gabriella, 1/11, \$450,000
71 Sentinel Hill Rd, Freeman, Michael A to Chowdhury, Farzana and Chowdhury, Sohan, 1/10, \$370,000
91 Upper State St, Cusano, John to Morgan, Heidi A, 1/13, \$300,000
111 Shawmut Ave, Capra, Christopher and Digioia, Camille to Kim, Young K, 1/10, \$306,000
466 Skiff St, Gentry FT and Gentry, Richard H to Johnson-Cronan, Cheryl L and Shropshire, Matthew, 1/10, \$336,000
521 Midland Ave, Lawrence, Veronica L to Dudek, Cody, 1/10, \$250,000

NORWALK

Christy St, Chase Ellen F Est and Farrelly, Thomas to Chapman, Jeni L, 1/14, \$4,405,000
N Taylor Ave, Dominick, Joseph A and Dominick, Sheila C to Sateiros, Edgar J and Trix, Nancy L, 1/11, \$523,000
Pine Point Rd Lot 180, Roberts, Lauren to Siletto, Joseph, 1/11, \$45,000
2 Trolley Pl, Yu, Richard D and Yu, Sara A to

Mcseveyn, Donovan J and Carlisi, Emily, 1/14, \$645,000

4 Tonetta Cir, Gerety, William and Gerety, Drayton S to Reilly, James C, 1/14, \$695,000
6 Toilsome Ave, Hubert E Spires T and Spires, Dianne E to Turan, Feva and Turan, Ozan, 1/13, \$699,000
7 Filbert Rd, Clements, Eva M to Grevers, Ernie and Grevers, Francis, 1/13, \$395,500
7 Hamilton Ave Lot 34, Rising LLC to Licari, John, 1/14, \$233,000
8 Belfor Rd, Estes, Aaron J and Estes, Shawnee R to Sharp, Nico and Pamintuan, Meara, 1/11, \$570,000
10 Yarmouth Rd, Brame, William S and Brame, Kathleen B to 10 Yarmouth Road LLC, 1/13, \$2,291,773
12 Elmcrest Ter, Taloney Associates LLC to Elmcrest Inc, 1/10, \$1,525,000
12 Lorena St, Schmitt, Denise K and Schmitt, Thomas G to Papowitz, Alan J and Evans, Katherine A, 1/11, \$870,000
14 Scribner Ave, Giuliano, Michael and Giuliano, Franca to Migia Properties LLC, 1/10, \$447,920
15 Country Club Rd, Rice, Barre C and Rice, Drenna L to East, Rose and Nelson, Davar, 1/13, \$570,000
16 Edlie Ave, 15 Emerson LLC to Vargas, Miguel A, 1/14, \$687,500
16 Rockmeadow Rd Lot N, Pieger, Kyrsten and Petrekty, David to Savona, Michael C, 1/13, \$230,000
17 Clara Dr, Debernardo, Gino and Debernardo, Amanda to Mingo, Taylor and Mingo, Tyler, 1/11, \$650,000
30 Olmstead Pl, Mazzella, Caterina to Jasso, Gary, 1/11, \$390,000
33 N Water St Lot 505, Dvortsov, Victor to Stock, Daniel H, 1/14, \$530,000
36 Rampart Rd, Ziegler, Andrew M and Ziegler, Sarah J to Rothweiler, Ashley and Saulnier, Andrew, 1/14, \$565,000
44 Glenrock Lot 44, Mazzarella, Pamela to Zhu Holdings LLC, 1/10, \$280,000
45 Ivy Pl, Fortunato, Alyssa M to Mooney, Kathryn and Mooney, James, 1/10, \$258,224
47 Cedar St Lot 18, Wilson, Andrew J and Wilson, Natasha to Ci, Ning, 1/12, \$215,000
50 Aiken St Lot 355, Pan, Qinfen and Herein, Acting to Holdsworth, Matthew D and Holdsworth, Alexandra R, 1/11, \$269,000
101 Silver Creek Ln Lot 101, Post, Gerald to Skinner, Brian and Skinner, Janice, 1/14, \$810,000
117 Witch Ln, Heasman, Louise S to Dalonzo, Christina, 1/10, \$949,000
126 Washington St Lot 104, Burnett, Devin K to Ersek, Tristan, 1/12, \$365,500
144 East Ave Lot B106, Hossain, Sahruz M to Fine, Ina, 1/10, \$370,000
164 W Rocks Rd, Adler, Jolanda W to R&N Rentals LLC, 1/14, \$373,500
175 Main St, Leib, Raquel to Son Of A Son LLC, 1/13, \$150,000
192 Ely Ave, 192 Ely Ave LLC to Andrade, Hugo R and Espinoza, Sulema L, 1/11, \$530,000
300 Saugatuck Ave, Pear Tree T and Partridge, Vincent R to Tse, Linda C, 1/11, \$1,325,000
342 Rowayton Ave, Christine, James F and Christie, Charlene to Chase, Julia and Fulmer, Samuel, 1/14, \$919,000
666 Main Ave Lot 112, Mcelroy, Cynthia M to Rivera, Linda K and Qin, David, 1/10, \$220,000
703 Foxboro Dr Lot 703, Caldwell, Stephen to Suchy, Allan and Karram, Helen, 1/12, \$515,000

NORWICH

7 E Pratte Ave, Smith, Donald F and Smith, Allyson L to Robert, Raina and Robert, Jeanette, 1/10, \$215,000

OLD LYME

5 Hartford Ave, Cole, George H and Cole, Ann K to Lord, Danielle, 1/14, \$285,000
14 Flagler Ave, Danielle, Gina G to Tarbell, James A and Tarbell, Nicole A, 1/14, \$500,000

OLD SAYBROOK

123 Elm St Lot 14, 123 Elm Assn Inc and Diomedea Group LLC to Yame Real Estate LLC, 1/11, \$17,955
123 Elm St Lot 13, 123 Elm Assn Inc and Diomedea Group LLC to Yame Real Estate LLC, 1/11, \$21,715

ORANGE

16 Lakeside Dr, Oak Tree Development LLC to Muir, Marianne, 1/10, \$193,560
667 Aspen Ln, Scheps, Adam Y and Scheps, Elizabeth R to Yilmaz, Vesile, 1/10, \$710,000
925 Green Cir, Tompkins, Gary M to Lisi, Seann, 1/10, \$525,000

OXFORD

Quaker Farms Rd, Rice, Mary A and Rice, James C to G&C Investments LLC, 1/6, \$206,500
2 Jenny Ln, Severson, James J and Severson, Patricia B to Gracey, Jerushah A and Gracey, Jonathan W, 1/12, \$635,000
22 Deerfield Rd, Kastens, Sharyl and Toal, Laurel to Madonia, Jennifer R and Colclough, Dennis M, 1/10, \$150,000
58 Jackson Cove Rd, Halpern, Jackie to Frat-tarola, Michael A, 1/12, \$439,902
79 Hogs Back Rd, J Falango LLC to Lombardi, Robert J and Lindner-Lombardi, Kristine, 1/11, \$130,000
212 Moose Hill Rd, Dytko, June S and Kilgore, Gale S to Bawlick, Michael and Bawlick, Daniel, 1/10, \$300,000

PLAINFIELD

45-51 Prospect St, Dalton-Robinson, Mark W to C&E Holdings LLC, 1/13, \$300,000
114 Pond Hill Rd, Mahon, Bernard M to Kochanek, Paul and Leiva, Jamie, 1/11, \$365,000

PLAINVILLE

8 Corban Ave, Docchio, Paul to Barkasy Jr, Mark and Barkasy, Elena M, 1/11, \$345,000
16 Adams Way, Hira, Pritam and Kaur, Harinder to Davis, Crystal M and Branch, Alexander D, 1/13, \$430,000
25 Welch St, Pandolfo Sebastian J Est and Piotrowski, Paula A to Lyons, Lacey, 1/10, \$180,000
87 Whiting St, Whiting&Broad St Assoc to 87 Whiting LLC, 1/10, \$200,000
178 S Washington St, Joseph R Binette FT and Allaire, Stephen O to Ruggerio, Mario A, 1/10, \$241,000

PLYMOUTH

290 Lake Plymouth Blvd, Cruz, Yodiel to Ribert-Lai, Wing Yuen and Lai, Julie P, 1/12, \$328,000

PORTLAND

5 Cinnamon Ln Lot 5, Grabek, Sharon H and Grabek, Stephen J to Goracy, Leonard H and Goracy, Lynn P, 1/10, \$260,000

PRESTON

N/A, Bowen, Jeffrey J to Dubreuil Sr, John and Dubreuil, Brenda, 1/11, \$265,000
260 Route 2, Goldstein, Steven to Cabral, Briana M, 1/11, \$365,000

PROSPECT

6 Brookwood Ct, Chapman Joyce E Est and Strumbski, Karen to Stevens, Tyler, 1/11, \$266,000
6 Holley Ln, Toppr, Qazibze to Portorreal, Deivi A, 1/14, \$499,000
8 Tamarack Ct Lot 8, Toll CT LP to Paren-teau, Linda L and Parenteau, Paul J, 1/10, \$191,120
21 Blue Trail Dr, Negaro Brenda L Est and Negaro, Craig A to Slapikas, Lauren M and Slapikas, Ryan J, 1/10, \$330,000
38 Industrial Rd, Lombard, John W to 38 Industrial LLC, 1/12, \$822,500
38 Industrial Rd, Lojac LLC to 38 Industrial LLC, 1/12, \$927,500
44 Sherwood Dr, Sima 3rd, William L to Jeanne L Deangelis T and Deangelis, Jeanne L, 1/12, \$385,100
148 Sycamore Dr Lot 148, Hlavacek, Elaine and Ottaviano, Robert to Zauner, Christopher R and Zauner, Stephanie P, 1/12, \$400,000

PUTNAM

4 Liberty Hwy, Foley, June E and Foley, Kevin R to Rondeau, Jeffrey A and Qin, \$375,000

48 Harrison St, Carpenter, Kate E to Turenne, Gary T, 1/11, \$142,000

REDDING

4 Marchant Rd, Chippawalla Prop LLC to 12 Marchant Farm LLC, 1/13, \$1,000,000
6 Putnam Hill Dr, Casillo, Patricia A to Shervinrad, Mohammadreza and Hojiat, Asal, 1/12, \$825,000
37 Sullivan Dr, Demott, Amanda M and Demott, Gabriel S to Markov, Aleksei, 1/12, \$800,000
41 White Birch Rd, Park, Hyun J to Pepe, Bria M and Pepe, Jake M, 1/11, \$610,000
340 Newtown Tpke, Corning, Dwight and Corning, Nancy L to Casillo, Patricia A, 1/13, \$700,000

RIDGEFIELD

5 Danbury Rd, Oprea, Daniel to Scully, Patrick, 1/11, \$700,000
12 Encampment Pl, Obrien, Richard J and Obrien, Mary L to Nichols, Eon S and Nichols, Martha N, 1/10, \$1,120,000
24 Lewis Dr, Sheafe, Scott W and Sheafe, Catherine M to Meyers, Steven D and Meyers, Cynthia, 1/14, \$1,289,000
75 Silver Spring Ln, Smac Prop Solutions LLC to Tracy, Matthew M and Burns, Maxine C, 1/12, \$775,000

ROCKY HILL

4 Copper Beech Dr Lot 4, Nordgren Patricia A Est and Latina, Doreline to Laplante, Kimberly, 1/10, \$170,000
35 Cold Spring Rd Lot 514, Swdk Properties LLC to Andrade Family LLC, 1/10, \$60,000

ROXBURY

67 South St, Oconnor, Glynnis M to Range 1 Inc, 1/12, \$660,000

SALEM

199 Old New London Rd, Gillman, Phillip C to Westbrook, Evan, 1/11, \$225,000
270 Old New London Rd, Rough, Kevin J to Maynard Jr, Robert L and Gladue-Maynard, Barbara, 1/10, \$211,000

SALISBURY

192 Sharon Rd, CTM Corp to Recolter Estate LLC, 1/14, \$600,000
323 Wells Hill Rd, M&I Properties 3 LLC to Chase, Irene and Stone Jr, Lewis B, 1/11, \$1,395,000

SEYMOUR

Meadow St, Piccirillo Jr, Gary to Gabon, Ronald, 1/6, \$252,000
8 Maiden Ln, Aikenhead, Michael A to Arbour, Victoria, 1/13, \$177,500
14 Maiden Ln, Drozdowski Jr, Edward J to Walsh, Connor P, 1/6, \$175,000
16 Tulip Dr Lot C, Gisvold, Emily J to Taylor, William S, 1/11, \$219,000
22 Bunting Rd, Higgins, Linden to Cassidy, Melissa M and Cassidy, Owen J, 1/12, \$270,000
45 N Benham Rd, Haack Helga Est and Frolish, Joseph to Tirado, Debora and Hostos, Rafael, 1/10, \$300,000
47 Birchwood Rd, Lee, Tressyn L to Pelaez, Nilton, 1/10, \$370,000
61 Derby Ave, And Management LLC to Liovvi, Luigi and Liovvi, Holli, 1/11, \$245,000

SHELTON

1 Manhasset Trl, Marini, Linda M to Sperry, David and Sperry, Brett, 1/10, \$195,000
9 Cots St Lot 2A, Wiemer, David R to Suite 2A LLC, 1/14, \$20,000
12 Manhasset Trl, Reid, Patricia A to Loughlin, Nolan and Liggio, Christine, 1/10, \$310,000
18 Capitol Dr, Hall, Jeffrey S and Hall, Aneta C to Chen, Bilian, 1/10, \$352,000
24 Scenic Hill Rd Lot 24, Arch, Valerie J to Lovallo, Robert, 1/14, \$440,000
27 Hawks Ridge Rd, Feldman, David S and Feldman, Barbara A to Mckay, Willie, 1/12, \$680,000
44 Dora Dr Lot 44, Carroll Martha K Est and Dignan, Rita to Pace Jr, Lawrence F, 1/14, \$517,500
100 Coat Ln Lot 3D, Onofrio 3rd, Salvatore and Davis, Sean M to Franceschini, Danielle and Triscari, Justin, 1/10, \$266,722

SIMSBURY

2 Scarborough Rd, Sanborn, Kevin D and Kokines-Sanborn, Penelope to Curley, Bryan W and Curley, Jennifer M, 1/10, \$680,000
18 Smokey Ridge Rd, Loftus, Jason M to Fadden, Stephanie and Fadden, Eric, 1/10, \$362,500
22 Fox Den Rd, Zunino-Hsu, Rachel to Lyman, Matthew N and Lyman, Allison N, 1/11, \$576,500
62 Canton Rd, Rubinstein, Marc and Britt-Rubinstein, Jackie to James Jr, Bolaji M and James, Veronica, 1/11, \$719,000
146 Great Pond Rd, Cowley, Robert W and Cowley, Karen to Santeausiano, Brett and Maron, Lisa A, 1/11, \$992,500
518 Hopmeadow St, Pride LP to Pride Real Estate LLC, 1/13, \$814,350
1340 Hopmeadow St, Pride Convenience Inc to Pride Real Estate LLC, 1/13, \$753,400

SOMERS

159 Mountain View Rd, Beckwith, R Brian and Haring, Susan to Zielinski, Mikhail W, 1/13, \$476,500
559 Main St, Biega, Casey D to Wittig, David, 1/10, \$155,000

SOUTH WINDSOR

13 Peachbrook Dr Lot 13, Powell, Georgia A to Joseph, Sahaya V and Amaraïra, Monica I, 1/4, \$325,000
15 Cinnamon Spgs Lot 15, Apel, Rosanne and Apel, Ewald to Kuppusswamy, Senthil K, 1/12, \$136,000
18 Wild Life Trl Lot 18, Webster, Geraldine P to Becker, Thomas J, 1/4, \$370,000
37 Overlook Rd, Watson, Jacob W to Muldoon, Patrick W and Muldoon, Megan E, 1/12, \$275,000
171 Jacques Ln, Reddy, Praveen and Reddy, Shumra to Bhuiyan, Mohammad and Afrin, Jennifer, 1/10, \$425,000
196 Newberry Rd, Waldron, Janet P to Schindler-Marren, Z, M, 1/10, \$445,000
304 Abbe Rd Ext, Beaudeau, Corey to Watson, Jacob W and Watson, Moriah, 1/11, \$450,000
734 Griffin Rd, Medeiros George Est and Medeiros, Daniel J to Santini, Jeffrey A, 1/6, \$310,000
1510 Sullivan Ave, Jodice, William L and Jodice, Ronald E to Nagpal, Anurag and Patney, Sharad, 1/14, \$215,000

SOUTHBURY

40 Far View Cmns Lot 40, Moehring John P Est and Moehring, Barbara to Ingala, Matthew J, 1/10, \$275,500
152 Heritage Vlg Lot D, Rinaldi, Stephanie to Teri, Cheryl L and Teri, Emil, 1/11, \$160,000
670 Heritage Vlg Lot A, Aulicino, Jean and Watervy Profit Sharing to Watervy Profit Sharing, 1/11, \$115,000
1163 Bullet Hill Rd, Bullett Hill Road LLC to Kipp, Jonathan D, 1/10, \$260,000

SOUTHINGTON

Darling St, Koskoff, David E to Koskoff, David E, 1/10, \$67,890
Linden Ct, Hillcrest Homes LLC to Koganti, Sri P and Neelima, Bethina, 1/5, \$528,743
41 Highwood Ave, Macary, Keith and Macary, Susan to Kowalski, Andrew J and Ramos, Sadraç, 1/10, \$404,999
49 Quaker Ln, Pall, Donna J to Delarosa, Mary C, 1/7, \$250,000
76 Kane St, Manware, James to Dyer, Jeffrey R, 1/10, \$130,000
125 Greystone Dr, Fidgeon, Janice V and Oconnell, Neil to Casas, Betzabeth X and Casas, Johnny H, 1/7, \$435,000
392 West St, 392 West Street LLC to Mase-wicz, Glen R, 1/5, \$225,000
1937 Mount Vernon Rd, Fields, Robert and Fields, Linda to Pollansky, Kyle and Adams, Alexis, 1/6, \$380,000

STAFFORD

Edgewood St, Scussell, Jon C to Gynnell, Dave and Gynnell, Carolyn, 1/6, \$159,900
1 Sunset Dr, Vogel Ronald W Est and Vogel, Randolph to Taglic, Mary A, 1/6, \$240,670
8 George St, Friedrich Jr, Robert E and Frie-

dich, Russell to Mceviely, William G, 1/12, \$245,000

26 Park St, Skrzypiec, Lauren E to Lima, Alexander P, 1/6, \$200,000

44 Tollard Ave Lot 33, Torrington Arms Apt LLC to Pippin, Veronica, 1/10, \$140,000
90 Westford Ave, Wood, David A and Wood, Colleen P to Paul 3rd, Joseph P and Paul, Rebecca S, 1/10, \$216,700
100 Willington Ave, Paciga, Emil and Paciga, Paulayne to Gagnon, Alan J, 1/10, \$45,000

STAMFORD

1 Broad St Lot 17F, Dadigan, Devin R to Vincent, Linda, 1/13, \$560,000
1 Glenbrook Rd Lot 3D, KEG Properties LLC to Khalil, Elizabeth, 1/12, \$255,000
1 West Trl, Mitchell, Stephanie to Packard, Daniel, 1/11, \$660,000
2 Seaton Rd Lot 2, Noel, Flavie to Cardozo, Geraldo A, 1/10, \$210,000
6 Broad St Lot 8F, Melgarejo, Jennifer L to London, Jeffrey, 1/12, \$510,000
17 Newfield Ct, Buzzeo, Loreto M to Cabrera, Jose D, 1/14, \$540,000
22 Glenbrook Rd Lot 415, Hu, James to Sanchez, Jose D and Padilla, Elvira S, 1/13, \$139,000
23 Standish Rd Lot 3, Berisha, Arben to Sethi, Anirudh and Parti, Priyanka, 1/13, \$195,000
25 Taylor St Lot H2, Collins, Amy J to Jurado, Margarita P, 1/14, \$282,500
26 Cook Rd, Shapiro, Joshua and Shapiro, Rebecca to Crosby, Philip and Crosby, Anamaria, 1/13, \$1,475,000
30 Glenbrook Rd Lot 6B, Shah, Bhavik A and Koranne, Swati D to Richard W Bolton RET and Bolton, Gabrielle V, 1/14, \$205,000
34 Broad St Lot 806, Depietro, Matthew J to Thaqi, Flamur, 1/12, \$290,000
35 Deacon Hill Rd, Zurman Veronica Est and Lance, Heather J to Burka, Kelly, 1/14, \$545,000
38 Van Buskirk Ave Lot 9, Wu, Yushang to Cortez, Bianca and Rivera, Luis, 1/11, \$369,000
39 Dale Pl, Carroll, Tara A to Dallta, Pavli and Hafizi, Olta, 1/11, \$435,000
50 Dale St, Levenets, Elena and Frank, Olga to Dixit, Amol, 1/13, \$360,000
54 Broad St Lot PH33A, Dowdle, John D and Dowdle, Austin R to Rosario, Everton, 1/13, \$960,000
54 Cove Rd, Hyde Park Properties LLC to 930 Cove LLC, 1/10, \$2,160,000
54 Swampscott Rd, Canning, Conor D and Grimsley, Shannon to Marine, Andrew S and Trottier, Aimee L, 1/12, \$536,000
65 W North St Lot 218, Kerosovic, Stela to Pizano, Mayileika, 1/12, \$170,000
72 Gutzon Borglum Rd, Chunasano, Ramona to Chunasano, Michael to Amarosa, Christopher and Amarosa, Lisa, 1/13, \$670,000
75 Crescent St Lot 21, Coupar, Claire E to Samori, Steven and Mastromarco, Nicole, 1/12, \$280,000
90 Ledge Ter, Barrett, Valerie A to Abrams, Jhanay and Abrams, Kurt, 1/10, \$575,000
101 Fieldstone Ter, Ackerman, James G and Ackerman, Anne M to Glassman, Elliot and Dreyfuss, Eliane, 1/14, \$682,000
109 Sylvan Knoll Rd, Clemons, Rosemary E to Shoemaker, Travis D and Stonebraker, Samantha N, 1/14, \$245,000
123 Harbor Dr Lot L24, Mirjaviadi, Zia to Mixson, Christopher M and Mixson, Elizabeth A, 1/12, \$265,500
123 Hope St, 1114 Hope Street LLC to Fortuna, Juan T, 1/12, \$530,000
127 Cedar Heights Rd, Storr Jr, David E and Storr, Sarah C to Hernandez, Julio C, 1/10, \$525,000
138 New England Dr, 63 Normandy Road LLC to Trombetta, Charles and Trombetta, Lisa, 1/14, \$1,155,000
167 Auldwood Rd, Treffeisen, Lynn M to Grabarz, James and Vilchez, Yolanda A, 1/11, \$767,000
167 Grove St Lot L, Khemlina, Anna and Samet, Ari to Cai, Huisi, 1/11, \$354,000
300 Blue Rock Dr, Winston, Scott and Winston, Erica to Otero, Adam and Cruz, Yasmín, 1/12, \$745,000
910 Hope St Lot 9A, Grochocinska, Anna to Lee, Helen H, 1/13, \$256,000
930 Strawberry Hill Ct Lot 4F, Morelli, Mari-etta D to Friedman, Keith and Friedman, Ian H, 1/10, \$249,900
1132 Bedford St Lot F4, Fonseca, Christo-pher A to Job, Nicole, 1/12, \$435,000
2435 Dee Ln, Thompson, Eugene M and Pippert-Thompson, V C to TFG Waterside Opportunity, 1/11, \$520,000
2437 Holly Cove Cir, Leslie, Bruce and Leslie, Margie-Jane to Hailstone, Lisa J, 1/12, \$1,150,000

STERLING

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

from Page 5

P and Dorso, Jayra to Shepard, Amanda L, 12/20, \$270,000
14 Bolduc Ct, Nonamaker, Robert D and Nonamaker, Rhonda B to Roopa, Radia and Yamraj, Kolin R, 12/21, \$585,000
20 Bolduc Ct, Inglese, Patricia and Inglese, Alexander to Desim-one, Andrew C and Eschuk, Mary K, 12/20, \$523,500
21 Spindle Hill Rd, Marsili, Amanda to Pring, Jerry S and Pring, Patricia A, 12/20, \$260,000
24 Brookdale St, Fistola Grace Est and Finelli, Marie F to Fistola, John, 12/27, \$180,000
41 Woodward Dr, Bartolini, Janet to Backus, Robert S, 1/13, \$329,000
45 McCormack Dr, Dagostino, Janet to Pires, Michael P and Pires, Anibal, 12/20, \$264,500
59 Coe Rd, Cody, James W and Cody, Lisa D to Nadimi, Amir H, 1/11, \$1,175,000
96 Cancellaro Dr, FNMA to Garuti, Philana, 12/21, \$272,000
97 Mad River Rd, Lupone, Morgan and Lupone, Daniel to Khalil, Mohamed R and Pinto, Victoria L, 12/20, \$299,000
135 Longmeadow Dr, Lemieux, Deborah C to Fields, Robert J and Fields, Linda P, 12/27, \$270,000
443 Woodtick Rd, Napolitano Invs LLC to Brinton, Mellissa, 12/21, \$247,000

WOODBIDGE

Davis Rd, Wendy S Davis Trapani RET and Davis, Wendy S to Preci, Alfred and Preci, Maria P, 1/13, \$205,000
12 Rimmon Hill Rd, Fattal, Giltian to Alafriz, Jan M and Alafriz, Kelsey L, 1/10, \$485,000
19 Northrop Rd, Lipka, Loretta to Costa, Jesse and Costa, Emily, 1/13, \$342,000
23 Perkins Rd, Moore, Christi L to Greene, Dana, 1/11, \$475,000

WOODBURY

Mill Rd, Amy K Miller RET and Miller, Amy K to Rogers, Jamie, 1/11, \$155,000
12 Hard Hill Rd, Pesce, Joseph to Sleem, Hassan and Labib, Justine, 1/10, \$426,400
26 Clubhouse Dr Lot 26, Guillemette, John to Cecere, Caroline, 1/11, \$250,000
301 Main St S, Sand Dune LLC to Burnham, Jonathan M, 1/11, \$374,900

WOODSTOCK

County Rd, Fairlane Farm Inc to Murphy, Nicholas M and Murphy, Margaret O, 1/13, \$150,000
18 West Rd, Luyando, Carmen and Klingensmith, Matthew to Bonin, Jason and Lauretano, Erica, 1/10, \$410,000



Wireless speaker showerheads are battery-powered showerheads that not only stream water, but can also stream your favorite music inside your shower stall. **KOHLER**

ASK THE PLUMBER

Smart choices for electronic plumbing fixtures

By Ed Del Grande | Tribune News Service

Q: I visited a local plumbing show-room and was surprised at the number of electronic plumbing fixtures available on today's market. They also seem pricey. Do you like any of these smart plumbing fixtures, or are they just a lot of hype?

A: I've seen some high-tech plumbing fixtures with extreme features that might be a little more hype than helpful.

But I've also seen very practical smart

fixture features as well.

With that said, here are a few of my favorite high-tech plumbing fixtures that I have worked with over the years. To make my short list, I looked for affordability, usability and installation.

Powered bidet toilet seats

Electronic bidet seats install on your existing elongated toilet and can be loaded with options like a remote control, hot water washing and odor control.

Touchless kitchen faucets

Touchless kitchen faucets can even include voice commands for total hands-off operation.

Wireless speaker showerheads

These fun battery-powered showerheads not only stream water, they can also stream your favorite music inside your shower stall!

Ed Del Grande is a master contractor, plumber and LEED green associate. Visit eddelgrande.com or write eadelg@cs.com.



A Northern-adapted strain of pigeon peas available from Truelove Seeds. **OWEN TAYLOR VIA THE NEW YORK TIMES**

ADVENTUROUS GARDENERS DIG DEEPER FOR SEEDS

World of genetic diversity available to those who look

By Margaret Roach
The New York Times

It's no secret where to get seeds for famous-name tomatoes such as Sun Gold or any of the other catalog standbys you have come to count on. But don't stop there.

An entire world of genetic diversity and cultural history is available to those who look a little further, courtesy of an emerging group of seed sellers who combine a passion for the unusual with a mission behind each offering.

The mission behind a particular seed variety may be environmental: perennial versions of favorite edibles such as kale, for instance, that mean less tilling and therefore less carbon released into the atmosphere, which is especially important on a farming scale. Or it may be to preserve and disseminate traditional seeds from places such as Afghanistan, Sudan and the Maldives, threatened communities where the genetics of ancestral plants are imperiled by strife or climate havoc.

Browse these companies' virtual catalogs and take what Nathan Kleinman, a founder of the nonprofit Experimental Farm Network, calls "a slow walk into garden radicalism."

Come for the irresistibly unusual: the Guatemalan Green-Fleshed Ayote winter squash (not your standard orange), the Chinese Pink celery, with its startlingly vivid stalks, or the Sacre Bleu kidney beans (yes, blue). But stay — as Kleinman and founders of other like-minded companies

hope you will — for the future-focused optimism: not just the seeds' personalities and the bounty they promise but the deeper possibilities they represent.

To get adventurous gardeners started, Kleinman put together a short list of some of his colleagues in the small-scale organic seed movement. And yes, he regards them as colleagues, not competitors.

"Ours is a really collaborative industry," he said. "We trade seeds with one another and share notes, all working together to preserve biodiversity. The competition is giant agribusiness and the industrial food system."

The back story

Kleinman and his colleagues share the core belief that agriculture can and should be used to help build a better world, not contribute to environmental decline. These companies' websites offer messages of environmental activism and social justice — and yes, a whole lot of irresistible plants.

Kleinman and Dusty Hinz, co-founder of Experimental Farm Network, met in Philadelphia through the Occupy Wall Street movement. Then they worked with Occupy Vacant Lots, transforming empty plots into productive food-growing spaces.

In 2014, using borrowed land near Elmer, New Jersey, they started what has become a nonprofit cooperative of growers focused on facilitating collaboration on sustainable-agriculture research and plant breeding.

Hinz has since moved back to his native Minnesota, where the seed-company part of the operation takes place today. Rather than relying on grants or donations, the company uses seed sales to support research, breeding and rematriation efforts — the return of varieties to their ancestral

people. Heirloom tomatoes and water-melons from the city of Homs, in Syria, for example, have been distributed to Syrian refugees in Lebanon.

The company's catalog helps support food-justice efforts, too. At the start of the pandemic, Experimental Farm Network founded the Cooperative Gardens Commission, providing free seeds to empower people to grow food. More than two dozen companies donated seeds that were distributed last year to more than 300 local and regional hubs.

A different vocabulary

Familiar seed-catalog notations such as F1 hybrid — the predictable first generation of a controlled cross — aren't part of the vocabulary in catalogs of companies such as Experimental Farm Network. The unfamiliar terms might, at first, sound puzzling.

These are open-pollinated seeds, or non-hybrids. You may even see mention of dehybridization, the process of allowing a hybrid to set seed, and then selecting among its offspring, or F2s. It's unpredictable, yes, but that's where the fun is, Kleinman said.

You'll find landraces, or seeds that are not standardized but represent a diverse population with similar characteristics — often drawn from localized populations developed through traditional farming, after farmers have selected for desired traits over generations.

The Kandahar Pendi Landrace okra from Afghanistan sold by Experimental Farm Network yields green, red, pink or white pods, wide-ranging in shape and size. The company's Nanticoke winter squash is a traditional crop of the Nanticoke people, one of the southernmost groups in the Algonquin language family, historically from parts of Maryland and Delaware. The fruits vary in form, shape,

color, size — even flesh texture, flavor and storage capability.

You'll see the word grex (Latin for flock), a term borrowed from orchid breeding, to denote a highly diverse group of interbreeding varieties. Kleinman learned it from Alan Kapuler, a longtime open-source seed breeder and mentor to many in the organic seed movement, who founded Peace Seeds.

Perennial edibles and hope for the future

Climate change came into sharp focus for Kleinman when he did hurricane-relief work with Occupy Sandy. When Experimental Farm Network was formed, the idea of developing carbon-sequestering perennial staple crops — grains, oilseeds, vegetables — remained front of mind.

"It's not just the tractors and the equipment and the chemicals," he said, "but just the very act of tilling."

In his catalog, there are many perennial edibles on offer, including unexpected native ones such as beach plum and passionflower, or maypop vine. Work continues on Andy's Green Mountain Multiplier Onion, a perennial variety from seed, and there is seed for rhubarb, too.

One promising research project is a perennial sorghum, a grain that is an important global food crop but is almost always grown as an annual.

Each order taken at one of these places means more genetics have more chances to grow and express themselves — to adapt and evolve.

"Seeds carry almost infinite potential," Kleinman posted recently on the @experimental-farm-network Instagram. "They brought us to this day, and they'll carry us to the next."



AIR



LAND



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ASK THE BUILDER

The secret behind ancient concrete steps

By **Tim Carter**
Tribune Content Agency

A few days ago, I dedicated one of my new livestreaming videos to one of the first building products used by man. Discovered thousands of years ago, hydrated lime is perhaps one of the most amazing multipurpose building products ever put into widespread use.

A modern analogue to this revolutionary building material might be steel. While steel was first invented in India thousands of years ago, the widespread manufacturing of what we know as steel didn't start until the middle of the 19th century. Steel has countless uses and can be found in tens of thousands of items. Hydrated lime can be found all over the world in countless buildings, used both as a mortar and as plaster.

You might wonder what lime has to do with ancient concrete steps. Well, let's begin by talking about modern concrete that you might have at your home or all around you in your city or town. The internet is littered with hundreds and thousands of woeful stories from homeowners about how their new concrete is crumbling. I've got no fewer than 10 older columns in my archive at AsktheBuilder.com that explain why this happens.

I wish you and I could take a road trip to Cincinnati. I'd take you to a few neighborhoods, one being Pleasant Ridge on the east side of town. There I'd be able to show you at least 20 or 30 outside sets of concrete steps that are just like the one in the photo appearing with this column.

These ancient concrete steps are original in almost all cases and installed when the quaint houses were built in the early 1900s. How is it that these concrete steps — all of them coated with cement stucco — have survived nearly 100 years and look almost brand new?

That's a great question, and

one you should ask each time you see some new product fail and wonder about how an older product that was pushed aside is still in service.

The reason why these old concrete steps lasted so long is really pretty simple. Back then concrete masons knew that if you added more Portland cement to the concrete mix, it made it stronger. This magic gray powder is very similar to hydrated lime. When you mix both with water, you start a chemical reaction where trillions of microscopic crystals start to grow.

These crystals act like modern Velcro. They're the glue that holds together the sand and stones in the concrete mix. There's a very good chance the concrete masons who installed the concrete steps in Pleasant Ridge also added hydrated lime to their mix, although it would take a chemical analysis to confirm.

I get excited about hydrated lime for two reasons, one being my college degree in geology. I grew up in Cincinnati, and as a youngster had no idea that geologists from all across the world visited my city. It turns out Cincinnati is the world-type section for Upper Ordovician sedimentary rocks. If you want to see the best plant and animal fossils of that time period, you come and split apart the limestone rocks interbedded in the shale at all the road cuts in greater Cincinnati.

I knew limestone was hard and durable as a geology student, but I wasn't aware that dense, fine-grained limestone can be heated to create the lime that's then used as brick mortar, plaster and a super-adhesive additive in regular concrete. When you heat up limestone, its chemical composition is CaCO_3 , you drive off the CO_2 and are left with CaO .

Once you grind up this CaO into a powder and then add water, you end up re-creating the lime-



These cast concrete steps are likely over 100 years old and are in nearly perfect condition. The clue to their age is the presence of the sidewalls. **TIM CARTER/TNS**

stone. This is why plaster is so hard. This is why true whitewash made from lime and then painted on brick buildings, fences or other walls lasts for decades. You're basically painting on or troweling on a thin layer of limestone.

You can now see why it's a good idea to add hydrated lime to concrete, can't you? The Portland

cement is strong, but why not give it a little boost. Keep in mind the normal minimum standard for exterior concrete exposed to cold temperatures is a six-bag mix. This means six 94-pound bags of Portland cement are in each cubic yard of concrete. It's probably a better idea to add seven or eight bags to your exterior concrete.

You can bet the old masons building the steps added extra cement, and they most likely put in a shovelful or two of hydrated lime. The railroad bridge engineers did the same. This is why you see concrete railroad bridge abutments in your city or town in such great shape after 100 or more years.

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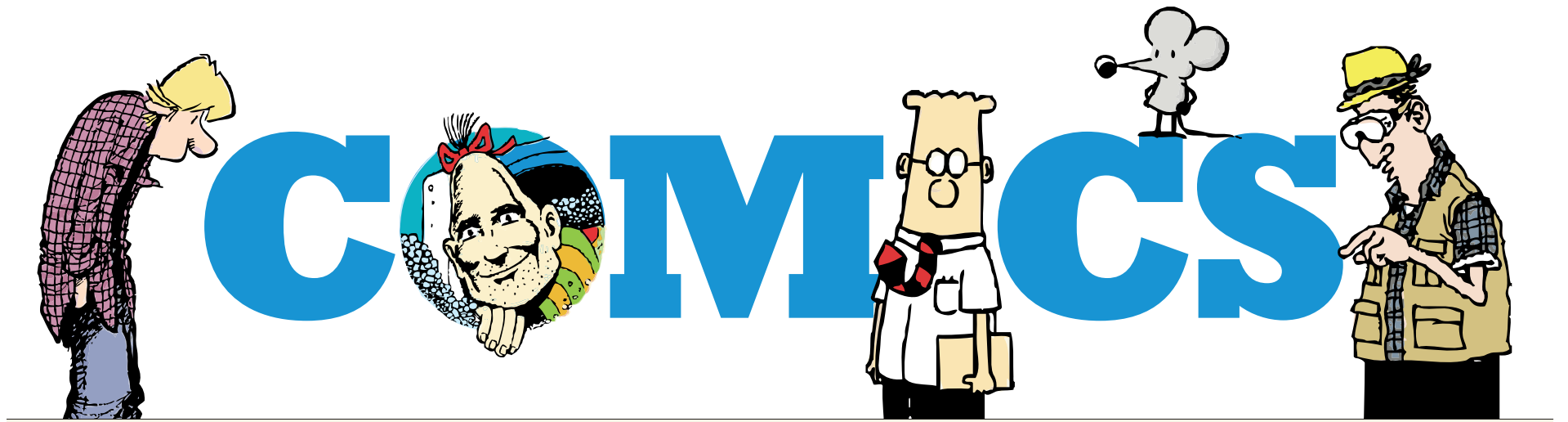


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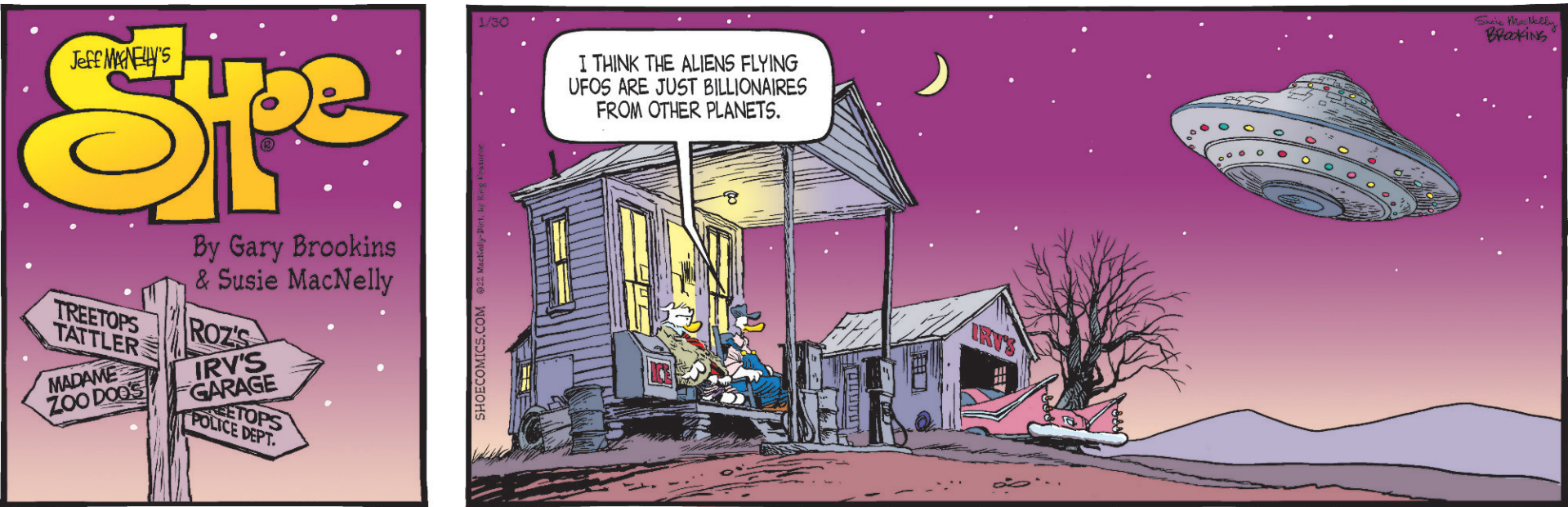
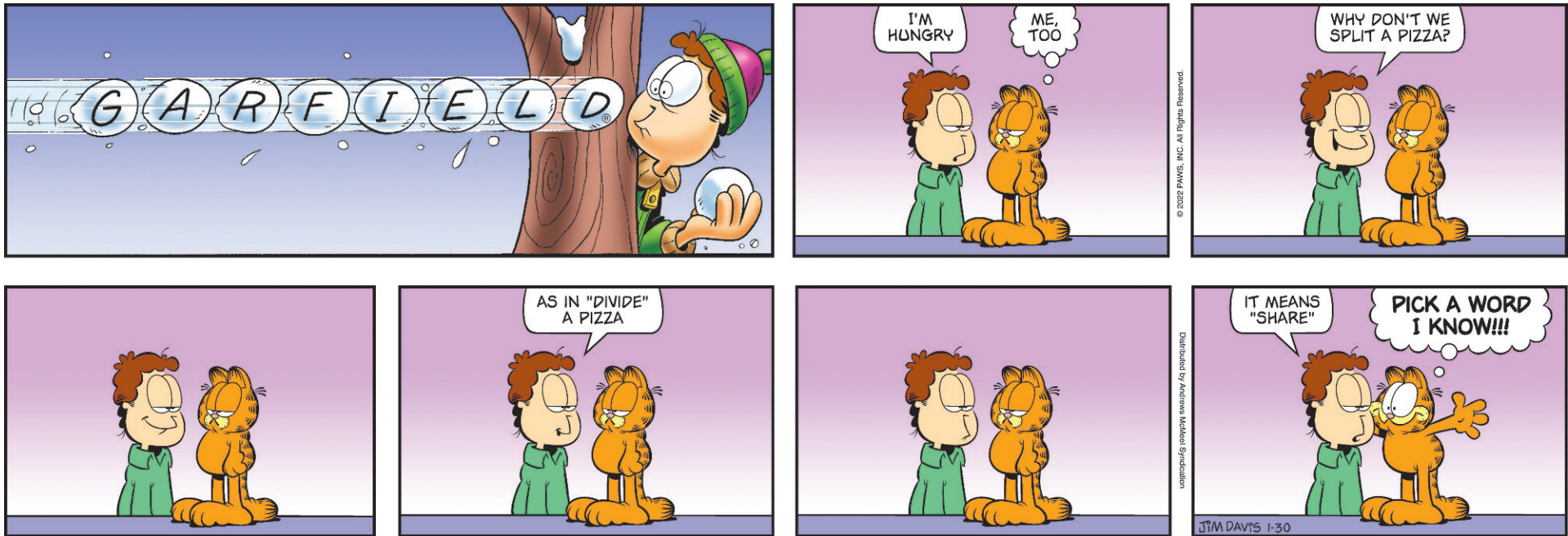
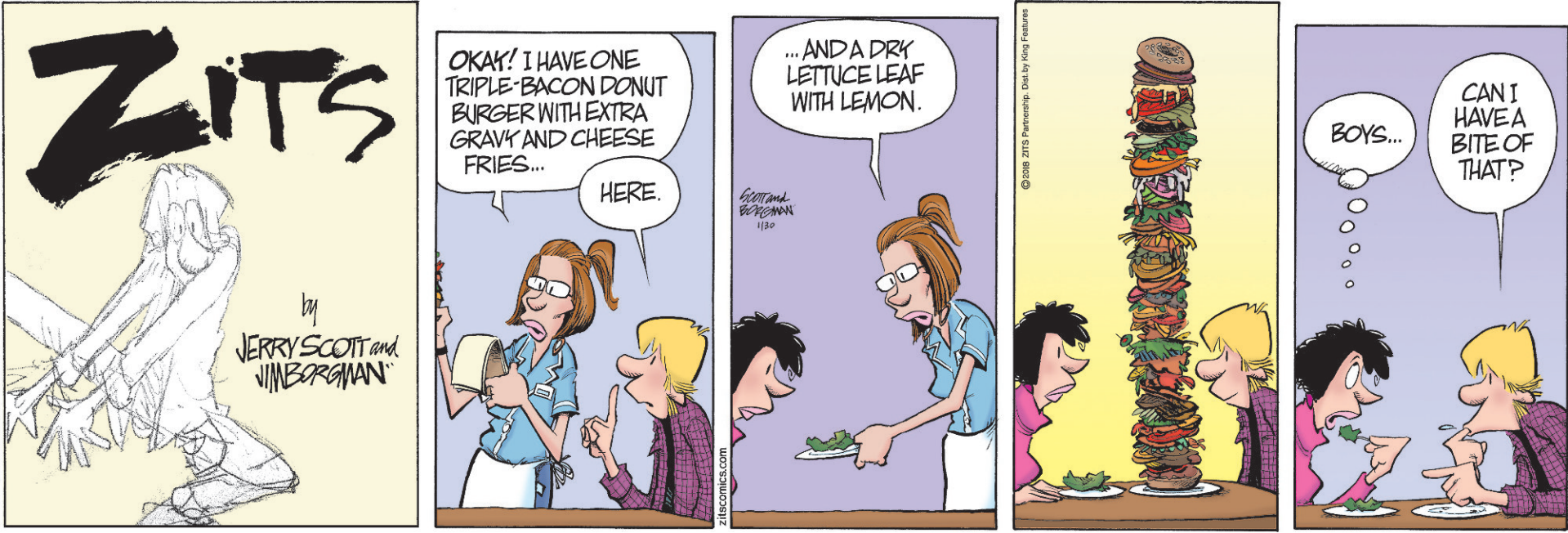
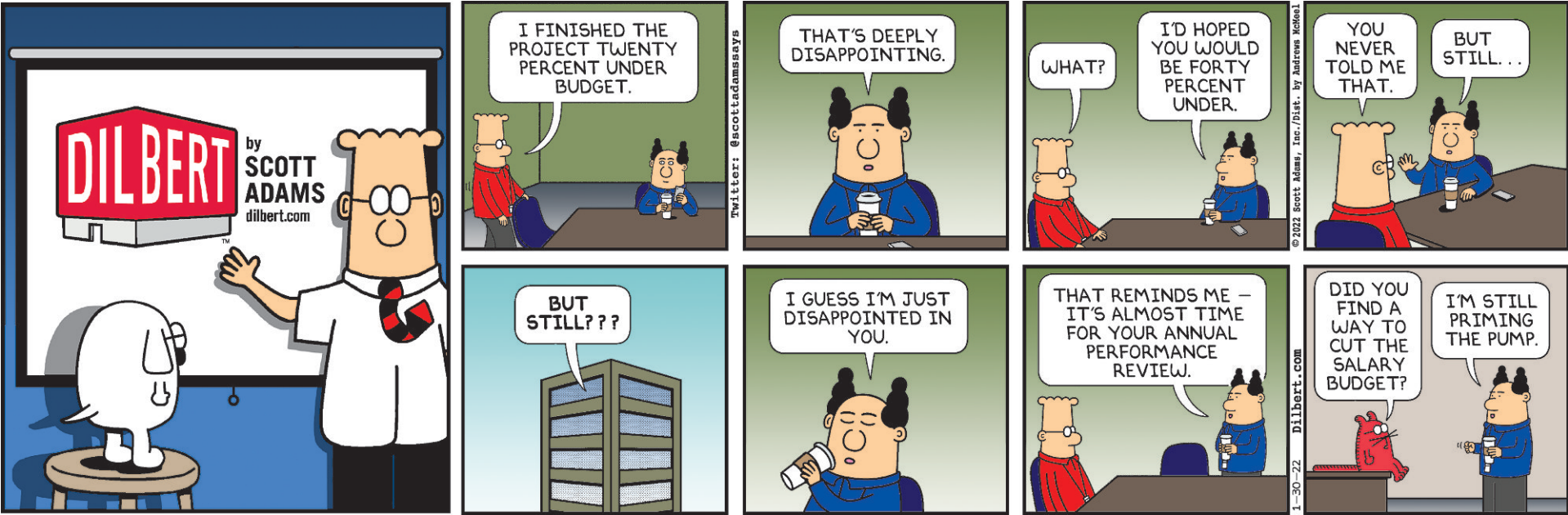
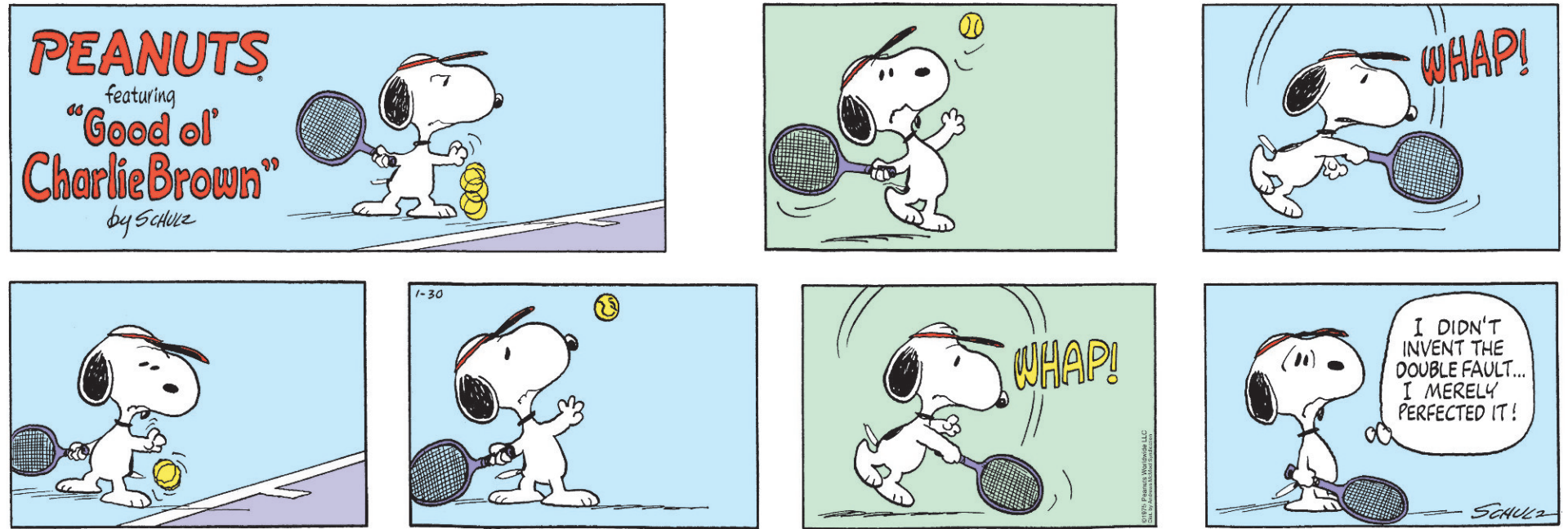
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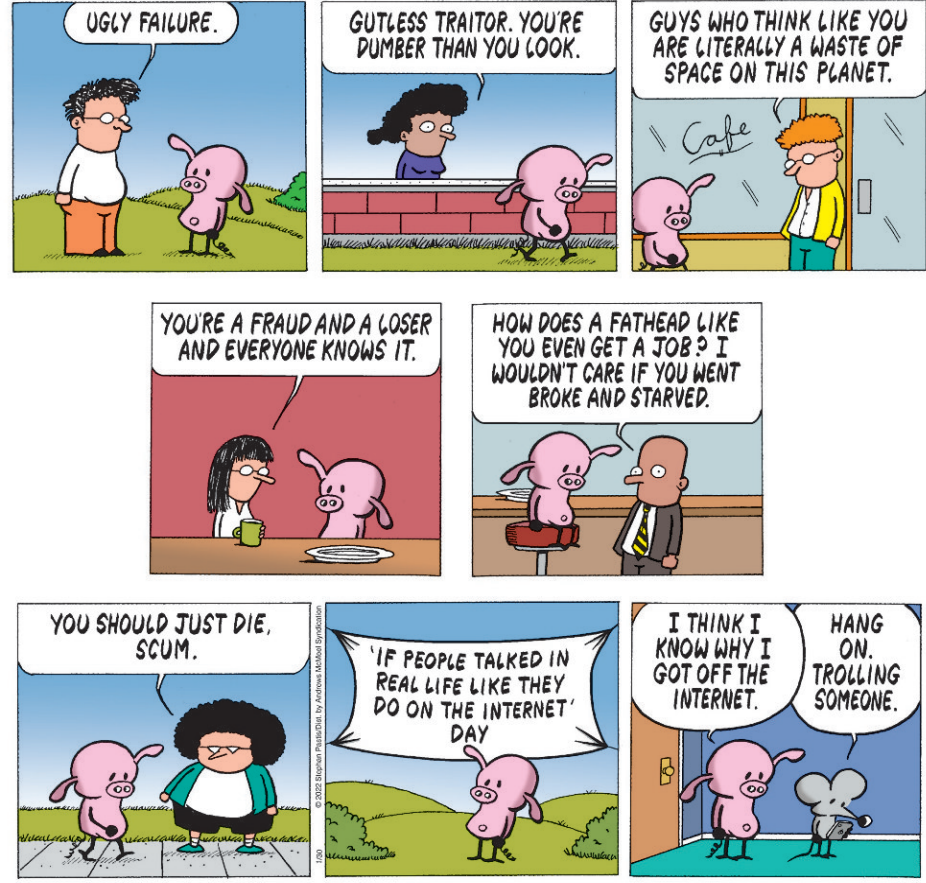
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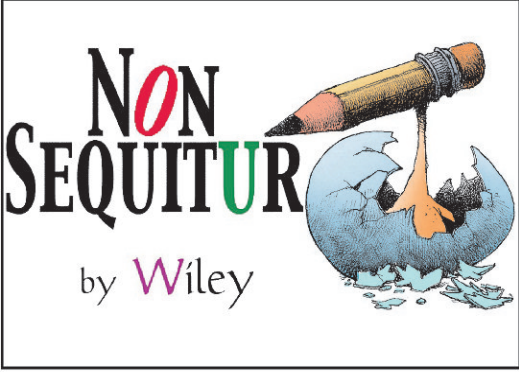
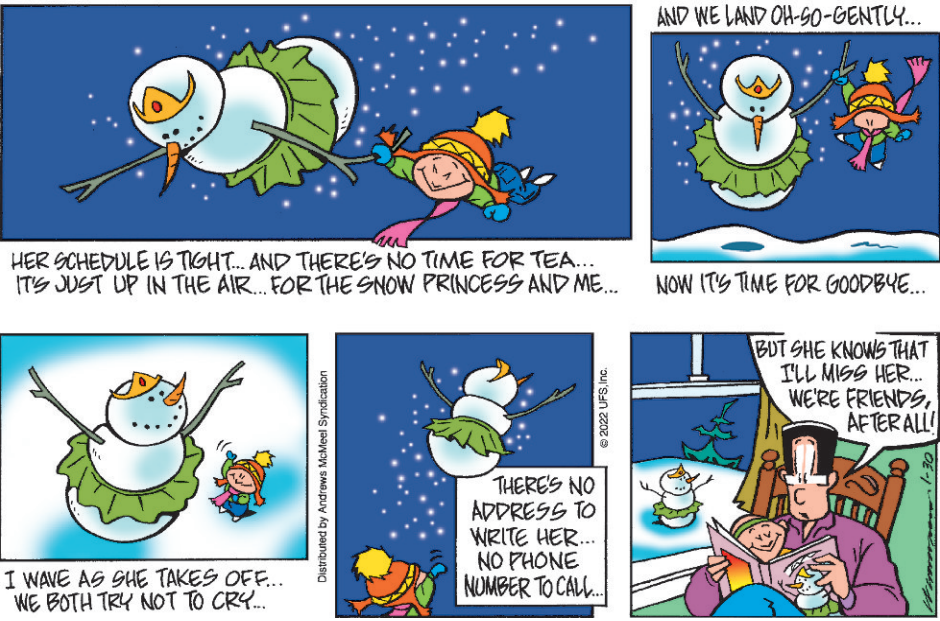
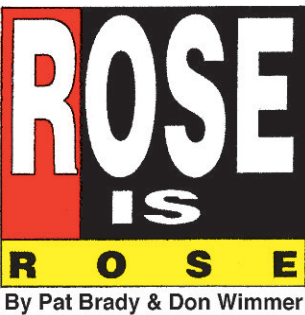
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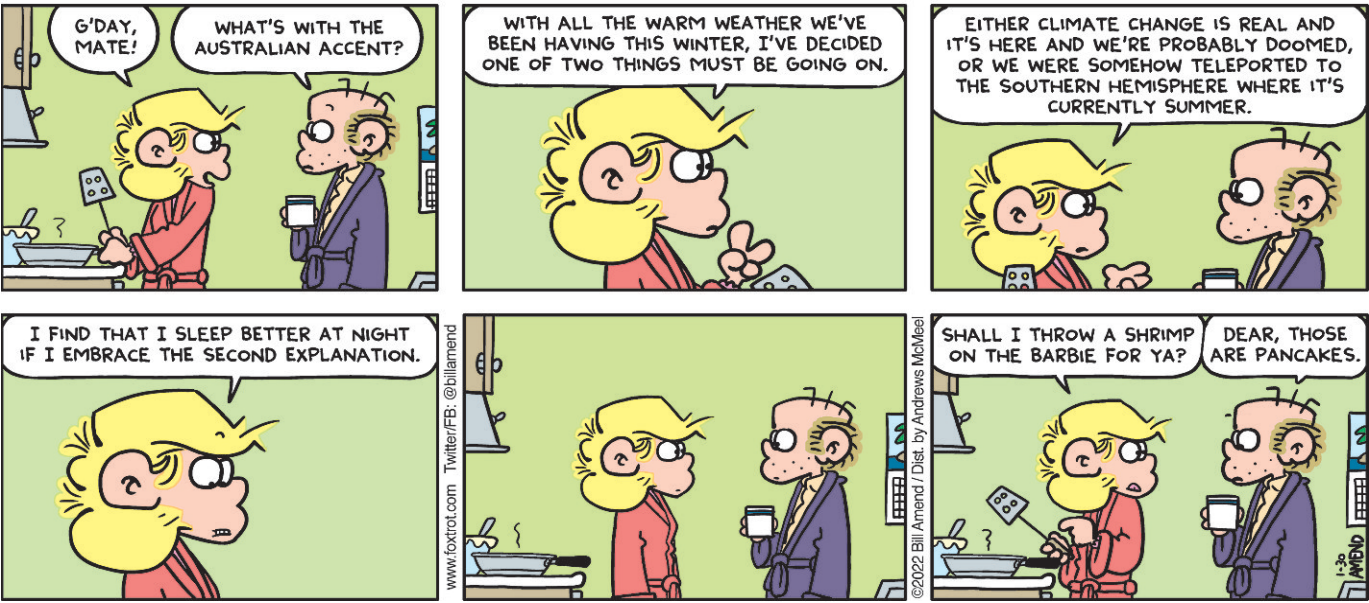
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



BY STEPHAN PASTIS



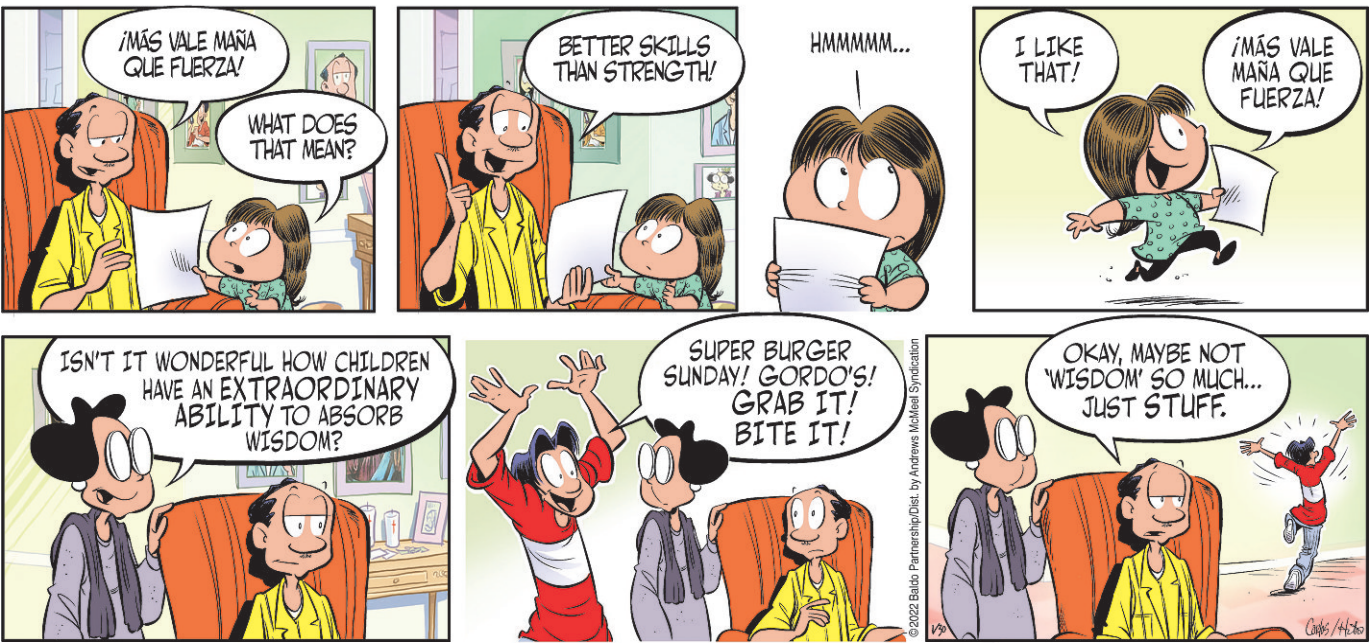
FoxTrot



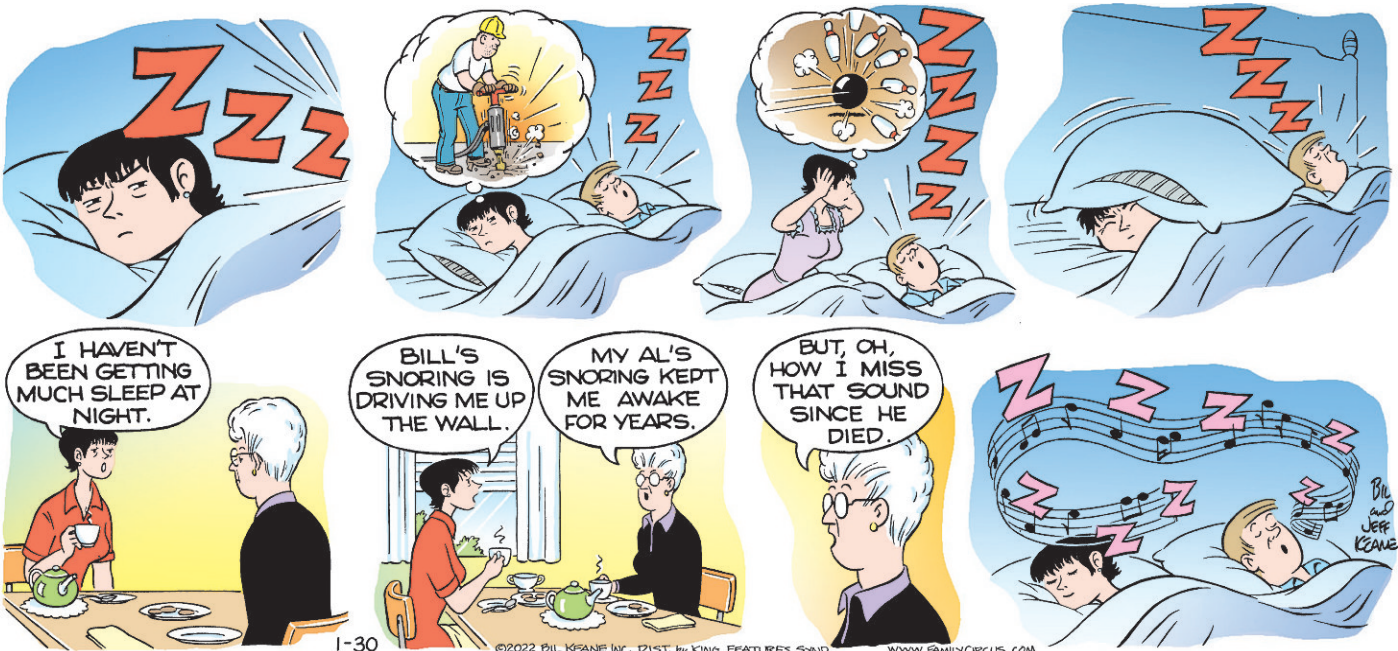
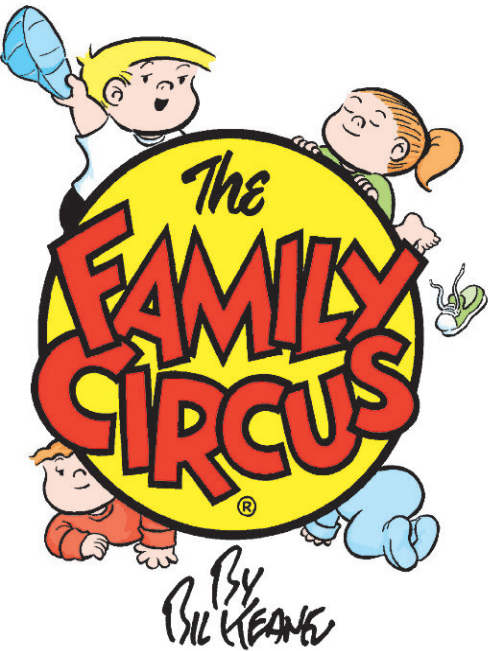
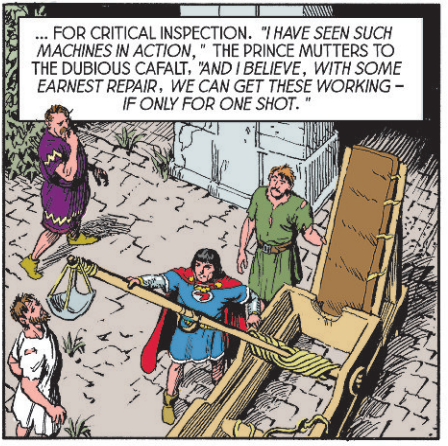
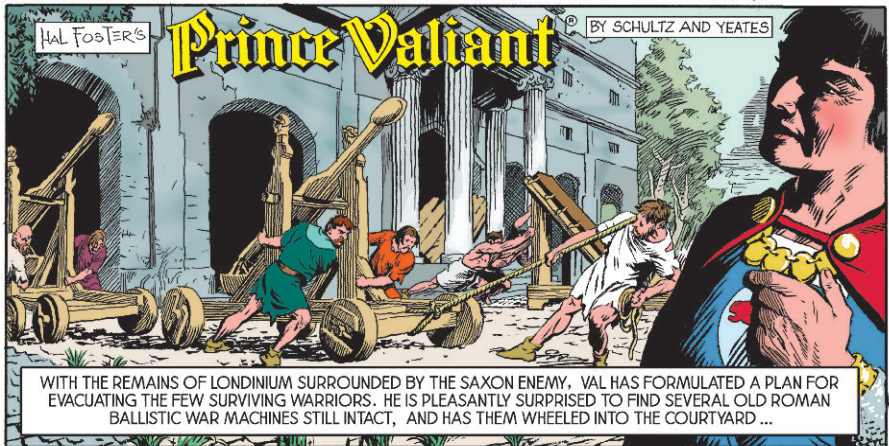
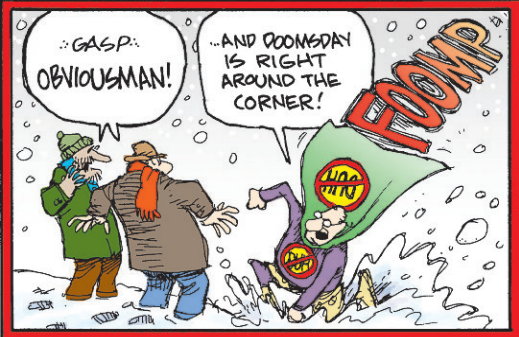
by Bill Amend



BALDO



BY CANTÚ AND CASTELLANOS



BY MASTROIANI AND HART

1-30-22

WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE FUTURE OF POWER?

HMM...

MAYBE WE'LL BURN SEAL BLUBBER.

KINDA MEAN TO SEALS...

GO DIRECTLY TO JAIL

UGH... PUSH...

WE COULD CUT DOWN THE FOREST AND BURN THAT.

HMM...

HOW ABOUT ROLLING A BALL DOWN AN ENDLESS M.C. ESCHER STAIRCASE?

NOW YOU'RE JUST BEING SILLY.

*WHEW... SURE IS HOT TODAY.

SURE IS.

WAIT A MINUTE. I'VE GOT AN IDEA...

WE COULD BURN OLD DINOSAUR BONES!

HMM...

GO DIRECTLY TO JAIL

UGH... PUSH...

GAME NIGHT IS ALWAYS FUN...

FWIP

1-30-22

ZIPPY by Bill Griffith

MRS. GOWANUS! LET'S TALK ABOUT TH' PRICE OF APRICOTS! THEN LET'S BAN TH' ELECTORAL COLLEGE!

OH, GOD... IS HE TALKING TO ME? CAN I JUST IGNORE HIM?

MRS. GOWANUS, I KNOW ABOUT YOUR CHECKERED PAST! AND YOUR RUMORED AFFAIR WITH COLONEL SANDERS!

KEEP STARING AT MY BAGEL... DON'T LOOK UP. OH, GOD.

MRS. GOWANUS, IS THERE LIFE AFTER DEATH? AND IF THERE IS, CAN I GET A RESERVATION AT A TABLE BY TH' WINDOW?

DON'T MAKE EYE CONTACT... DON'T EVER MAKE EYE CONTACT...

1-30-22

BLONDIE BY DEAN KUNIGS & JOHN MARSHALL

AMIGO, ARE YOU READY FOR SOME FULL-CONTACT PLAYOFF FOOTBALL ACTION?

YEP! IT'S NICE TO HEAR A PACKED, NOISY STADIUM AGAIN!!

ARE YOUR TEAM'S FANS MASKED UP TO STAY SAFE OR TO HIDE HOW UGLY THEY ARE?

RIGHT BACK AT YOU, BUDDY!

LOOKS LIKE YOUR TEAM IS PRACTICING SOCIAL DISTANCING INSTEAD OF BLOCKING ANYONE!

SAYS YOU!

ARE YOUR TEAM'S RECEIVERS AFRAID TO TOUCH THE FOOTBALL OR SOMETHING?!

I WAS ABOUT TO ASK YOU THE SAME THING ABOUT YOUR QUARTERBACK!

BOY, IT'S GREAT TO HEAR THE ROAR OF A FOOTBALL GAME AGAIN!

YEAH, TOO BAD THEY'RE BOOING YOUR TEAM!

IT'S SO NICE TO HEAR THE BOYS TRASH TALKING FOOTBALL AGAIN!

YES, THEY EVEN HAVE SOME FRESH MATERIAL!!

MONTY BY JIM MEDDICK

HAVE YOU SEEN MY SNOW TIRES?

WHAT?

HAVE YOU SEEN MY SNOW TIRES?

MARY WORTH BY KAREN MOY & JUNE BRIGMAN

AFTER WILBUR GOES MISSING FOR A WEEK, MARY, ESTELLE AND DAWN MOURN HIS LOSS...AND ARE SHOCKED WHEN HE RETURNS!

IT'S A MIRACLE! WE THOUGHT WE'D NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN!

I'M FINE, GOOD TO SEE YOU, LADIES!

YEAH! THANK GOD YOU'RE ALIVE!

AFTER I FELL OVERBOARD, I FORTUNATELY WASHED UP ON GREAT ROCCO CAY...A PRIVATE RESORT ISLAND OF ROYALE CRUISE LINES!

WHY DIDN'T YOU CALL US?

I WANTED TO SURPRISE YOU!

OH, FOR PETE'S SAKE!

DA-AD!

THAT'S IT, I'M DONE HERE.

LADIES, WAIT!

I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND WOMEN.

MOY BRIGMAN 1/30/22

FUNKY WINKERBEAN by TOM BATUK

DO YOU EVER REGRET RETIRING FROM FULL-TIME DIRECTING, HARRY?

WELL, IT WAS NEVER MEANT TO GO ON FOR INFINITY!

ACTUALLY, I REALLY LIKE DIRECTING THE COMMUNITY BAND, THE JAZZ COMBO AT BEDSIDE MANOR AND THE CHOIR AT ST. SPIRES AND GIVING PIANO LESSONS.

IN FACT, I'M ENJOYING RETIREMENT SO MUCH... I JUST MAY RETIRE AGAIN!

I ALWAYS LOOK FORWARD TO THE MUSIC EDUCATORS' CONFERENCE, BECKY!

Ohio MEA Professional Educators Conference

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE BY DIK BROWNE

YES! FAMILY AND FRIENDS, WE REMEMBER SVENSON AS HONORABLE...

YES! YES! YES! YES! YES! YES! YES! YES! YES! YES!

COMPASSIONATE...

STINGY!

Parade

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AMERICA'S CURLING HEROES

How a
humble
Midwestern team
made curling cool, charmed fans
on *The Voice* and became Olympic stars

PLUS
Alan Ritchson is the
new Jack Reacher, p. 2

Personality Parade

WALTER SCOTT ASKS...

ALAN RITCHSON

The *Titans* star, 39, segues from TV's superhero series to the action crime drama *Reacher* (Feb. 4 on Amazon Prime Video). Ritchson plays the hard-hitting former military police investigator of the title who is arrested for a murder he didn't commit and takes on a small town to prove they have the wrong guy.

Jack Reacher seems to be a somewhat mythical figure. He does represent this larger-than-life, almost superhero quality in the wish fulfillment he provides us as a culture. This mysterious stranger sweeps in and takes care of our problems and brings justice where maybe the law couldn't or is too slow, so he does represent a mythical quality.

Did having a dad who was a U.S. Air Force chief master sergeant inspire your performance? Growing up and being around soldiers and enlisted military men, there's a formality to the way that they greet each other, the way that they stand, the salute, the handshake. There is a posture that my father carried that was an easy translation into Reacher's body language. It is something that I only see in military men and women. I wanted to honor that.

Tom Cruise got flak for being too short for the Reacher role in the 2012 movie. Do you think part of your casting was because you're a big guy? Reacher is a bit of a unicorn; he is so highly intelligent, but he also has this brutish physique. We were trying to get that right. I usually walk around a little lighter. I spent about eight months putting on a little size naturally and eating a lot of food.

Your introduction to TV was on *American Idol*. Music was my first love. Singing was something I felt decent at, and it felt like it just made sense to pursue that. I had never thought about acting. *American Idol* took me to L.A. for the first time, where I was exposed to acting. I asked someone if they could help me get auditions and they did, and I started working.

**WHAT'S HIS PROBLEM WITH FOOD?
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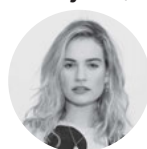
UMA THURMAN'S SUSPICION

Thurman, 51, follows her role in the Netflix supernatural series *Chambers* with the eight-episode thriller *Suspicion* (Feb. 4 on Apple TV+). She plays Katherine Newman, a prominent American businesswoman whose 21-year-old son is kidnapped from a New York City hotel. When four British hotel guests become the main suspects and find themselves in an international maelstrom of publicity and pursuit, it becomes a cat-and-mouse game to find the guilty party. The series is based on the Israeli TV drama *False Flag*.

WHEN TOMMY MET PAM

It was a whirlwind courtship for *Baywatch* star Pamela Anderson and Mötley Crüe drummer Tommy Lee, who married in 1995 after knowing

each other for less than a week. But the real bombshell was the graphic sex tape they made on their honeymoon, which was stolen and leaked to the public. Now Lily James, 32 (*Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again* and Netflix's *Rebecca*), and Sebastian Stan, 39 (*The Falcon and the Winter Soldier* and *I, Tonya*), star as the infamous Hollywood couple in the limited series *Pam & Tommy* (Feb. 2 on Hulu). "I think audiences will be incredibly surprised by just how much Lily's been able to bring that character to life as a fully formed person, as opposed to an impersonation," says director Craig Gillespie.



HALLE BERRY IN SPACE

Berry blasts off in the sci-fi thriller *Moonfall* (in theaters Feb. 4) as Jo Fowler, an astronaut who travels into space to try to stop the moon from crashing into Earth. Here are five facts you may not know about the Cleveland native, 55, who won an Oscar for her role in *Monster's Ball*.



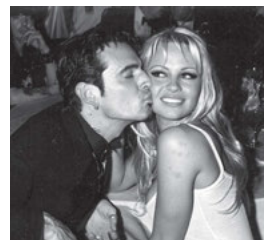
In 2002, she became the first—and still only—Black woman to win the Academy Award for Best Actress.

She's a former Bond girl, playing Jinx in *Die Another Day* opposite Pierce Brosnan.

Berry turned down the role of Annie in *Speed*, which went to Sandra Bullock.

She's the first actress to play comic book characters from two different comic franchises: Storm in Marvel's *X-Men* films and the title role in DC Comics' *Catwoman*.

She made her directorial debut with the movie *Bruised* (now available on Netflix), also starring in the film about a mixed martial artist.



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The CURLING CRAZE

It's not just Olympic teams hitting the ice with brooms in hand (see page 6). Curling has taken off across America, from the **Granite Curling Club's junior program** in Seattle and **barbecue bonspiels** (another name for a curling tourney) in Kansas City, Mo., to Chaska, Minn., where deaf players take the ice. Here, we take a closer look at curling's popularity. —Sue Campbell

Southern Wisconsin curler Kristin Smith, a member of **Team Lawless**, which won a silver medal at the 2019 senior women's nationals, loves the camaraderie of league play at the local level. Her favorite tradition is "broomstacking," sitting down after a game with teammates and opponents, eating, drinking and socializing. "It's part of the polite nature of curling—it's good for kindness," she says.



Kristin Smith, 60, Susan Dukes, 56, Kathy Pielage, 59, and Tracy Lawless, 58

185
Curling clubs in USA

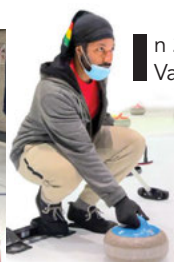
23,500
Curlers registered with the U.S. Curling Association

The Feb. 'Spike'
The rise in online traffic around "curling" during an Olympic year

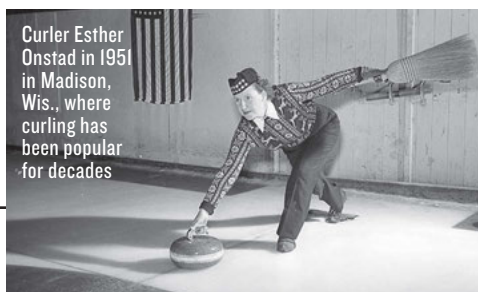


Miyo Konno, 61, Aryn Grause, 32, coach Doreen Deaver, 51, Berit Tomten, 37, and Ashley Duranleau, 33

Seattle's Miyo Konno first tried curling 20 years ago. Then USA Curling Hall of Famer Nancy Richard took Konno under her wing. "I learned so much that I figured I should impart some of that knowledge to the younger curlers at Granite Curling Club of Seattle." Konno's teammates are half her age, she says, and "everybody has to like their seat on the bus to keep it rolling," meaning each player must embrace her position for the good of the team.



In 2010, while binge-watching the Vancouver Games, Brooklyn-based 20-something actor **Husani Blaze** had an aha! moment: "I realized curling is a thinking sport! This is chess on ice," he says. In 2018, he tried curling for the first time and loved it. He eventually joined the board of the Brooklyn Curling Center, which aims to build a team. He has big dreams: "I've never played on dedicated ice, and I've never played in a tournament," Blaze says. "But I'm aiming to compete in the 2030 Games."



Curler Esther Onstad in 1951 in Madison, Wis., where curling has been popular for decades



Ask Marilyn

By Marilyn vos Savant

You wrote about handedness. But how do we define it? I write with my right hand, yet I do everything else with my left hand. Am I right-handed, left-handed or ambidextrous?

Matt Mason, Ames, Iowa

Handedness is defined by fine motor control, so you are weakly right-handed. (This is unusual for righties.) The more you do with your right hand, the more strongly you are right-handed. The same goes for left-handers. (But in contrast, they are seldom strongly left-handed.) Only people who can write equally easily and well with either hand (without having developed the practice as a fun skill) are truly ambidextrous. They are very rare, but about 1 percent of people claim ambidexterity.

Send questions to marilyn@parade.com

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29				9
39				11
41				73
43	51	59	81	79

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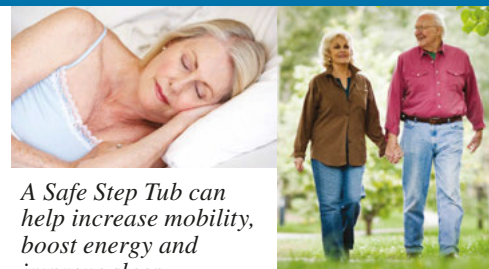
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AMERICA'S



TEAM

As the 2022 Winter Olympics heat up, the U.S. men's curling team—a talented Midwestern bunch of not-so-average Joes—continues to captivate a nation with an appearance on *The Voice* and new fans every day.

By Sue Campbell

Cover and opening photography by Marc Morrison

Sitting around a table in an ice arena in tiny Eveleth, Minn., the U.S. men's Olympic curling team eats sandwiches on hoagie buns and soup from Styrofoam cups. Chris Plys is wearing a flannel shirt, and mustachioed Matt Hamilton sports an orange beanie over his shoulder-length hair. Team captain John Shuster fetches extra mustard packets for his crew as conversation ping-pongs from the day's schedule to *The Great British Baking Show*.

You might not guess this unassuming group of 30-some-things—Shuster, 39, the skip; Plys, 34, vice skip; Hamilton, 32, second; John Landsteiner, 31, lead; and Colin Hufman, 37, alternate—are fierce competitors, let alone Olympians. Three of them were on the 2018 history-making team that brought home the country's first-ever Olympic gold in curling, the sport where players slide stones on ice toward a target area. (See “Curling 101” for an explanation of all the terms.)

And as the 2022 games approach, these humble players are a little stunned to discover that they've become a bit like “rock” stars—fans are increasingly interested in their clothing and facial hair, Hamilton went to dinner with Brian Baumgartner (Kevin from *The Office*) and a new documentary about the team called *American Rock Stars* is streaming on Peacock.



The team gave *The Voice*'s Blake Shelton a “stateside captain” shirt.

A Humble Sport

In spite of the recent hoopla, low-key humility goes hand in hand with curling, which hits the limelight only every four years when the Olympics roll around. “Curling is like a giant frozen Slip 'N Slide—the kids' game,” Shuster says. “That's cool . . . isn't it?”

True, the sport lacks the sparkle of figure skating, the reckless speed of alpine skiing and the derring-do of snowboarding. Curling's appeal is quieter, rooted in Midwestern decency. Clubs in the region are mostly owned by municipalities and aren't fancy, like some out East. Junior league memberships in Superior, Wis., where Shuster lives, cost just \$75 for the season.

CURLING 101



The stones are made from granite and weigh 38 to 44 pounds.



Players “sweep” the ice with curling brooms to warm it up to reduce friction and control the rock's distance and direction.



The clock tracks “thinking time” (38 minutes of strategy and discussion allowed per 10 “ends,” or rounds).

Curlers are trained early on to score honestly, to value sportsmanship over winning and to not only shake hands with opponents after a game, but also sit down and share food, drink and conversation—a tradition called “broomstacking.” Teams decide strategy cooperatively. It’s polite.

This team embodies that ethos. All of them curled as kids, Landsteiner and Shuster starting around 8 years old, when they could barely control the 40-pound rocks of granite sliding down the ice. Hamilton used to “sweep his own rock,” meaning he’d throw the stone, grab a broom and steer the rock toward the target, essentially playing three positions by himself. He saw curling as a way to beat boredom during long winters in Wisconsin, where he grew up. One state away, Plys played hockey for a time—“*That* was the cool sport in Minnesota, the state of hockey,” he says. But his parents were hooked on curling, so he and his siblings had no choice but to participate.

Having family in the game is common. Hamilton’s sister, Becca Hamilton, is on the U.S. women’s Olympic team, and the two sometimes practice together. Shuster’s already starting his two young sons on the ice, plus they’re Dad’s fans. “They get really upset when we lose,” he says.

Indeed, the game can be frustrating as players try to control and place rocks on an unpredictable surface with strategy and precision. Listening to Team Shuster play, you can hear the occasional Minnesota expression “Uff da!”—which doesn’t have an exact translation but is akin to “Jeez Louise!” And when things get really bad, they say, “Cripes!” After their appearance on *The Voice* in December, a viewer even wondered on social media if this U.S. team was in fact Canadian because of their accents.

There haven’t, so far, been big sponsorship deals for the team, though Plys jokes—sort of—about being open to representing a major beer label. They travel on the cheap, sharing hotel rooms or Airbnbs, squeezing in and really getting to know each other, especially during COVID restrictions, when they formed a self-contained bubble.

They all value their tight bond and have tried to use their platform to boost diversity in their sport and to raise money for

JOHN LANDSTEINER The lead throws the first two of the total eight stones per end (like a baseball inning) and sweeps the rest of the end.

CHRIS PLYS The vice skip throws, sweeps and discusses strategy.

JOHN SHUSTER The skip (team captain) sets strategy and makes decisions about play. He’s the one you hear shouting “Hard!” “Sweep!” or “Whoa!” to the sweepers controlling the movement of the stone.



COLIN HUFMAN The alternate replaces an ill or injured player.

MATT HAMILTON The second throws and sweeps.

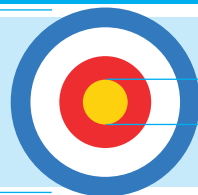
fighting hunger and funding cancer research. But they also simply appreciate their laid-back time together, having a beer as they discuss a game or watching episodes of *Seinfeld* to unwind.

“We’re a team and there’s nothing else to do,” Hamilton says of life traveling to tournaments. “They gotta be your boys!” Plus, he says, if there’s any tension among players, it leaks out on the ice during play. This team won’t let that happen.

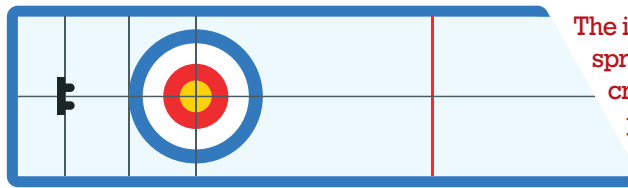
In fact, Hamilton and Plys (who replaced Tyler George after the 2018 win) pass time playing the occasional friendly prank,

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The rings that players target are called the house.



The button sits at the center of the rings; the closer the stone is to it, the higher the points.



The ice is sprayed to create a pebbly surface.



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most often on their coach, Sean Beighton. Once, they got into his room, turned all his shirts inside out, refolded them and put them away. They mismatched his socks and taped his soap dispenser so it wouldn't pump.

"It was nothing *bad*," Plys says.



The 2018 Olympic team included Tyler George (second from left) and Joe Polo (right).

"There were just, like, 14 things," Hamilton adds.

"I'm not sure he likes it that much," Plys says, thoughtfully.

"But he tolerates it," Landsteiner says, laughing, and admits that he himself hates to be pranked after a bad incident involving plastic wrap and a toilet seat.

"You make it clear you're always willing to go farther," Huffman says.

"So there's no retaliation," Plys adds.

Even their pranks are performed with strategy.

The Focus on Gold

The whole team's ability to stay focused is superhuman, but Plys, they agree, is the master. "I get comments: 'I wish you'd smile,'" he says. "I smile. I smile all the time after the games."

Landsteiner says it's their experience that helped them get to the Olympics. All of their competitors have practiced to

continued on page 10

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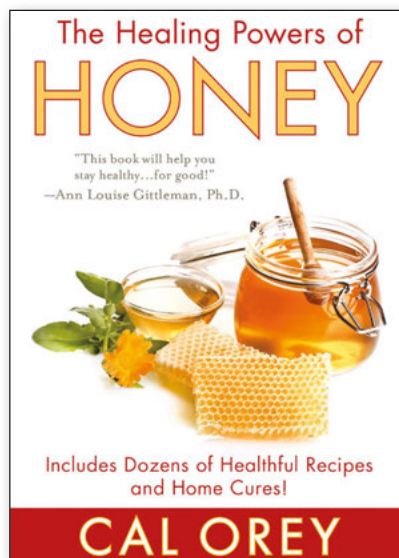
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the point that they can throw perfectly. "But to do that in a game, it's about controlling emotion, and there's no practice for that," he says. "The only way to do that is by having experienced it."

They're looking forward to reliving that experience at the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing (Feb. 4–20 on NBC, Peacock and NBC Sports). Shuster recalls the last win in Pyeongchang, the dream-turning-to-reality quality



Plys throws and Landsteiner and Hamilton prepare to sweep at the Olympic trials in November.

of it and how much, in that moment on the podium, the team leaned on each other and shared in it together.

One of the things he's most excited about this year is walking in the opening ceremonies with Huffman, who, unlike the rest of the team, is a first-time Olympian. "To represent your country—even if for some of us it's the second or third or fourth time—it never loses its luster. It's the greatest honor you can have as a sportsman," Shuster says. "Thinking about Colin experiencing that for the first time..." He shivers. "It raises the hair on my arms." And Colin Huffman's eyes—all the eyes around the table—show a little sheen.

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